

The Macdonald FARM Journal



VOL. 19, NO. 5

DECEMBER, 1958



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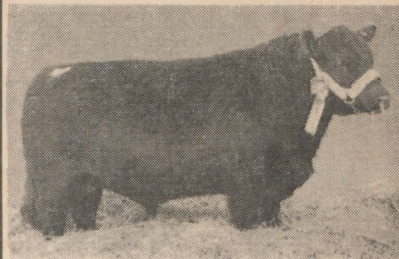
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What's Behind a Bottle of Milk in India

by Dr. M. A. MacDONALD

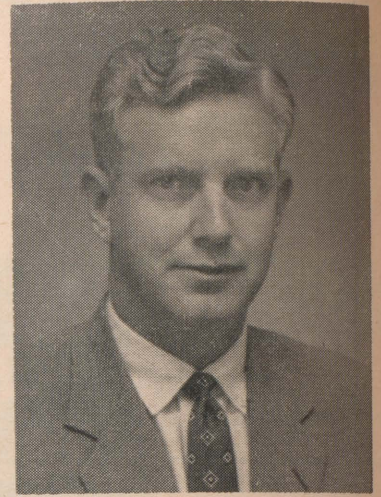
Macdonald College's new Animal Husbandry professor tells of his intriguing adventure in a country where the cows are sacred and the milk is loaded with iniquity . . .

We are all too familiar with pictures of children suffering from malnutrition in underdeveloped countries of Asia, Africa and Europe. Organizations such as the International Red Cross, UNESCO, the Colombo Plan etc. indicate that milk is one of the most essential ingredients for adequate corrective nutrition. On appeal posters these organizations incorporate pictures of destitute children holding what is to them one of life's few pleasures—a bottle of milk. The poster captions usually state your donation is necessary in order that these underprivileged children may continue to receive milk. But from where is this milk to come? Every dairyman knows it takes more than money and wishful thinking to provide a bottle of milk particularly if the consumer is a long way from a source of production which traditionally has been limited to temperate areas.

After spending over two years at Ruakura Animal Research Station

in New Zealand's most intensive dairying district our homeward journey included stops in many countries where decidedly different dairying techniques are practiced. Canadian dairymen will be interested to compare methods used in the other areas to increase milk supplies with the methods used in Canada.

Milk production under temperate New Zealand grassland conditions using many modern technological aids is a terrific contrast to that found in much of India. On leaving the plane in Madras we were left breathless by the heat. Being told the heat wave had broken was no help in easing our distress when we learned the temperature was "only" 105 deg. F. Knowing European dairy cattle produce best under temperatures of 40-70 deg. F. how could any form of milk production be possible under these conditions? Pastures in the Madras area are also non-existent.



Macdonald is his name, Macdonald is his station . . .

Religious Symbol

Cows have a religious significance for the Hindu. While steers and bulls are used for draught and other heavy work the Brahman or Zebu "holy" cows are often permitted to roam freely. In many villages youngsters must stand guard continuously to prevent these animals from eating the rice and other garden crops that form the basis of family diet. Cows may be seen everywhere; in the shade of temples, on approaches to public buildings, wandering among the stalls in bazaars and marketplaces and invariably resting on roundabouts at busy intersections. The cows seem oblivious to the traffic rushing past them and the many pedestrians who go out of their way to touch them for good favour.

No Quotas Here

Some attendants of Indian cattle have developed a system, the ingeniousness of which would make us jealous. The system works in somewhat the following manner: The attendant offers for sale small bundles of hay or grass which the purchaser immediately feeds to the cow. At the same time anyone wishing to purchase milk presents themselves with a container and milk is withdrawn to the required amount. Not even the undigested portion of the feed bundle is wasted since the manure is dried in the sun and used as fuel for cooking. Imagine how profitable dairying would be if Canadian dairymen were able to sell feed to well wishers who were prepared to feed it immediately to the farmer's cow, purchase the milk and carry it away from the farm in customer supplied containers! As to be expected levels of production are not high and sanitation is neglected completely.

Until recently a similar situation



India's holy cows impede progress in more ways than one.

existed in Bombay. In 1916 it was found that milk samples in Bombay contained more bacteria than the sewage water of London.

Because of their ability to produce milk with a high butterfat content and their ability to withstand high humid temperatures, Indian buffaloes took over as the principal dairy animal.

According to Dr. D. N. Khurudy, Bombay Milk Commissioner, a lot of unclean water was added to unclean milk before and after those first bacterial counts were made.

During the period between the two world wars the Bombay city cow population increased to more than 50,000 head. The only other source from which surplus village milk could be bought was in Gujrat nearly 200 miles north. However, since pasteurization and refrigeration or insulated rail transportation were non-existent, milking cows had to be kept within the Bombay city limits. Purchased cattle had to be brought long distances: so did the hay and other feed-stuffs. Even the dairy attendants were brought from livestock districts 1200 miles away. When cows dried off they presented a problem; they were usually open. Therefore, most of them were slaughtered at the end of a lactation and the few calves born were usually starved to death. Since there is no land attached to these city dairy units the manure was dried and burned as fuel; urine was wasted. In order to make ends meet dairy-men added more dirty water to the already unclean milk.

War Changed Picture

The outbreak of World War II necessitated many changes. The export of buffaloes to Bombay was restricted and these animals were kept in breeding areas. Due to



The idea of cleanliness in milk production is gradually finding acceptance in India. Here, a group of farm women are on their way to the community pasteurizing plant with the morning's milk.

transportation difficulties, hay and other feedstuffs were scarce, milk production was resultantly slow. The population increased rapidly because of war industries. The use of fresh milk had to be restricted to children, expectant and nursing women while the rest of the population was forced to use dried skim milk.

It was obvious that so long as cattle remained in unsanitary congested city stables no improvement in milk supply was possible. In 1948 the Bombay government de-

cided to remove milking livestock outside the city limits. Construction began at the village of Aarey and by 1949 seven units were ready with accommodation for approximately 3500 milking cows. Today there are over 30 units housing more than 15,000 animals under the Aarey milk colony administration.

In the next issue the Aarey Milk Colony and its milk processing system will be discussed.

A second article from Dr. Macdonald on this subject will appear in the near future.

WHOOPING CRANES MAY SOON TOTAL 41

Nine young whooping cranes have been seen at their wintering grounds at Aransas Wildlife Refuge on the Texas coast, the Interior Department reported this week. It means that this could be a banner year for the birds who were once nearly extinct.

Although the number of cranes both wild and in captivity is not believed to exceed three and a half dozen, this is the highest number of young ever counted since records were first kept by the department in the winter of 1938-39.

At that time, only fourteen

whooping cranes were known to exist. This year, if all twenty-six of the wild birds who migrated to their summer nesting quarters in Wood Buffalo Park, Canada, return to Texas, they will total thirty-five. Six others are in captivity, making a possible total of forty-one cranes.

The birds make the 2,500-mile journey to the park, located just south of the Great Slave Lake, and back in small groups. On their return they begin arriving in Texas in mid-October and continue to appear through mid-December. At present, eighteen adults have returned to the Aransas refuge.

A man wrote to a hotel and asked if dogs were allowed there. The manager of the hotel sent the following reply:

"I've been in this business for 30 years. Never have I called on the police to eject a disorderly dog.

"Never has a dog set fire to a bed with a cigaret. I have never found a hotel towel or blanket in a dog's suitcase. Nor a whiskey ring on a dresser from a dog's bottle. Sure the dog is welcome.

"P.S. If he'll vouch for you, come along, too."

EDITORIAL

The Miracle Which Needs no Explanation

There came to my desk this week a letter from an Anglican clergyman who is now practising the high calling in one of the more notable churches in eastern Quebec. The contents of the letter itself would be of slight interest here. Suffice it to say that the reverend gentleman had been delving into some local history and was querying us as to whether or not it might make an acceptable news story.

I am quite sure that the pastor doesn't have any idea who I am, but to me, his name was one which I recognized instantly even though it is now nearly 25 years since I have seen him.

The incident which impressed him so firmly upon my memory took place when I was a boy in knee pants in a small town where this good man had just taken over a pulpit in our proud little Anglican church. He was young and full of Godly ambition. The congregation was staid and had been satisfied for a long, long time. The zeal of their new pastor was just a little hard for them to take to their cautious hearts.

The more tolerant of the parishioners reminded the others that he was young and that Time cures nearly everything.

Then came the Christmas concert. The minister had worked a long time on the homegrown talent at his disposal and by adding his own acting genius here and there, he had rounded out a program which even the more cynical of his flock admitted to be good.

The more tolerant gave him an even greater credit. It was the best Anglican program they could ever remember, they said. It was almost as good as the program the Latter Day Saints put on.

(Whether they had just been born dramatic or whether theirs was an inspiration which came from on High the Latter Day Saints were always credited with having the best Christmas concert in town.)

But then just as the program was coming to its splendid conclusion and the pastor's star was rising to a new height, he committed the tragic blunder which was to make him so vividly remembered

through all the years after. When he came out in front of the curtains to make the little closing speech expected of pastors on such occasions, he admitted that there was no Santa Claus.

The pronouncement was not the burden of his speech, of course. It was something which came rather incidentally, and he hastily added the customary compensating talk about the spirit of Santa Claus which was indeed real and which was far more important than the little red fat man himself.

But the damage had been done. The church basement was filled to the furnace with youngsters of all ages that night, and they had all heard. The silence which took hold of their parents was the silence of utter darkness.

"How could he?" someone near me whispered. "How could he be such a fool?"

And for years afterward, that moment of supreme honesty was the one thing which was always recalled whenever it became necessary to prove the young man incompetent or unworthy of continuing in their pulpit.

But the strangest fact of all, and the fact which I remember just as clearly as the great pronouncement itself, was that it was the parents who were so rudely shocked that night. There wasn't a whimper from a child anywhere. I doubt if they were even surprised. And when in full Santa regalia, the village mayor trooped and whooped onto the stage a few minutes later, their screams of delight were just as loud as those which have ever greeted any Santa, real or revealed, anytime, anywhere.

ANOTHER MACDONALD IS WELCOMED TO THE CLAN

Dr. M. Allan MacDonald has joined the staff of Macdonald College as Assistant Professor of Animal Husbandry.

Dr. MacDonald, born at New Westminster, B.C., in 1925, received a Bachelor's Degree in Agriculture (B.S.A.) with honours at the University of British Columbia in 1947. He obtained a Master's degree from the same

University in 1949.

From 1949 to 1951 he was Animal Husbandman at the Federal Government's range Experimental Station at Kamloops, B.C.

In 1951 he attended Oregon State College where he did Ph.D. studies on Animal Physiology with Animal Nutrition and biochemistry as minor fields. In 1953 he accepted a position as research officer in charge of beef cattle research at Ruakura Animal Research Station, Hamilton, New Zealand, where he remained until 1956. Dr. MacDonald was also technical advisor to the New Zealand Meat Board and undertook a study which terminated in the formation of the New Zealand Meat Research Institute.

En route from New Zealand to Canada, Dr. and Mrs. MacDonald spent several months in Australia, Ceylon, India and Great Britain. During the academic year 1956-57, he studied under an N.R.C. post-doctorate fellowship at the University of Saskatchewan. Dr. MacDonald joined the staff of the Lethbridge Experimental Farm where he was employed as Animal Physiologist until joining the faculty of Macdonald.

Dr. MacDonald has a rather long list of published results from a variety of research projects and it is expected he will continue with a research programme in association with his teaching and other duties at Macdonald College.

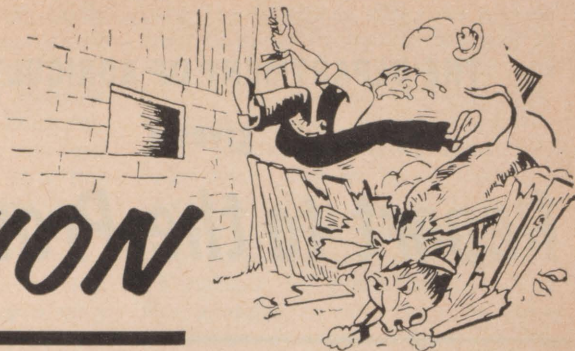
Keep Christmas Safe

Persistent and pointed education of youthful bicycle-riders by parents, police, pedestrians and motorists will go a long way to reducing the awful traffic toll involving bicycles, the Safety Conference claims. Because the young rider is inexperienced and high-strung, he will usually resist attempts to "tell him what to do" but patience and caution together with persistence can save many young lives.

Using Canada's national Safe-Driving Week, sponsored by the Conference between December 1 to 7 this year, as a hook, CHSC issues the following pointers for bike-riders:

Know and obey all traffic rules and regulations; ride with traffic; never ride on the sidewalk; always give the pedestrian the right-of-way and slow down when meeting or passing a pedestrian; ride at night only when unavoidable and then always wear white and carry a reflector.

Letters for our **BEEF SECTION**



LIKED WALSH

To the Editor,
Macdonald Farm Journal.
Dear Sir:

I have just read your fine article on Mr. B. Walsh, "Mr. Macdonald College." Now I hear that "Miss Macdonald College" — in other words Miss Gwen Sydney, is also going to McGill. "What's the matter with Old McGill? — She's all right" — But what's the matter with Old Macdonald? — to let two such valued and popular figures leave the hallowed halls?

Nostalgically yours,
A Former Student.

College Royal Coming

Dear Sir:

This year the students of Macdonald College are holding their "College Royal" on February 19th. The theme for the Royal is "As for the future..."

We could be very grateful if you could announce this, as a coming event, in your magazine.

Stan Moore,
Director of Publicity
Macdonald College.

Objects to Editing of Woodlot Article

Dear Mr. Green:

Unfortunately, in the article "Trees are a Crop — Some Case Histories," you or your staff in preparing the photographs for printing in the Macdonald Farm Journal ignored my comments attached to these photographs that were sent to you from this office. This has led to very misleading statements with reference to the type of cutting in one of the pictures. This is not a wasteful type of cutting in this type of stand. It is a type of cutting that will establish white spruce regeneration, and in mature even-aged spruce it is probably the only way that the forest can be properly harvested.

As you can see from the enclosed, it was necessary to write an apology

to Mr. Hodge as I had inspected his woods, taken these photographs, forwarded him copies and told him what a good job he was doing, and I sincerely believe that he is handling his wood lot probably as well as any forested property in Quebec. He has a considerable area of forest and much of it mature or reaching maturity and it is extremely difficult to cut spruce without carrying out some sort of clear strip-cutting approximately as wide as the height of the neighbouring trees, in order to have good regeneration of spruce and at the same time not expose too much of the soil to erosion, or the stand to wind damage.

There are many ways of cutting woodlots, and, although to the uninitiated clear-cutting in small patches seems extremely wasteful and destructive, this is not the case when applied to certain types of stands, and it is very important to understand these distinctions before you can apply broad generalizations such as were made in this photograph. All the photographs I sent you were depicting good conditions and I regretted your not mentioning that the third photograph was a sugar bush. This omission is rather misleading because as an example of a good woodlot under good management, it does not look to the experienced owner or the forester to be a very good example of a good woodlot. It is a good sugar bush, but it is a very different thing from a good woodlot. It would be appreciated if you could try to stick as closely as possible to the inscriptions enclosed with the photographs and avoid this confusion in future articles.

Trusting in your co-operation in this matter,

Yours very truly,
A. R. C. Jones

Editor's Note:

Because the pictures submitted with Prof. Jones' article were very small, we were forced to ask for negatives in order to obtain prints of publication size. Somewhere between the editor's desk and

the printing plant, the captions which had come with the first pictures became lost and we had to substitute our own. This we did to the best of our knowledge as a woodlot owner ourselves, and there are still certain points of this problem of reforestation which are not yet clear to us.

In the article which appeared last month, Prof. Jones goes to some length to give the advantages of proper woodlot management, and what he had to say in this regard made very interesting reading. What we could not seem to find in the article however, was any clear definition of what constituted sensible cutting and what kind of cutting was wasteful. In the three pictures which went with the article, one shot shows a mixed forest with little or no undergrowth, one shows a clearing of sufficient size to run over two sides of the photo, and the third shows a stand of sugar maple with a very abundant undergrowth. We thought that the picture showing a large hole cut into the middle of the woods must surely be the one Mr. Jones intended to illustrate wasteful practices, and we still need another lesson or two on the subject to convince us of the wisdom of such a plan.

Apparently all three of the practices pictured are supposed to be good ones, but we are of the opinion that many another reader besides ourselves would like to have Mr. Jones become a little more specific in this matter. If all of these practices pictured are good ones, what then can be bad?

But we are sorry we lost the original captions, though we're glad the loss brought forth the professor's very interesting letter. We learned more from it than we did from the article.

Helping Johnny to Read

Dear Mr. Green:

Someone asked for help with a child reading problem. I might suggest something which is in the experimental stage with me. My daughter worried a bit about her young son's reading. He is more interested in farming or machinery while at home and in numbers and art work in his second year at school. I wished I could help a little. Parents know that the old folks love to hear their grand children do well in their enterprises. Often it might help if they enlisted the aid of Grannie or Gramps.

A child does poorly in school if

(Continued on page 11)

THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

gives a

Report to the Province



Has the Showring Missed the Market

A forthright discussion on a very troublesome question by Quebec's Farm Forum secretary.

by LESLIE YOUNG

The primary objective of the showring is to promote the breeding and feeding of improved breeds of livestock which will help the practical farmer to improve his livestock. Are showrings attaining this objective? There are a good many rank and file farmers who think not.

Asked whether today's showring standards are guaranteeing the best livestock for the average producer, over 80% of Farm Forum members in Quebec reported they didn't think so. They went on to say that when buying animals, they look for performance first, and conformation or showring standing second. About a third of the groups look for performance only.

These findings are startling. First they indicate that most farmers no longer compare their livestock to the standards set by shows and in so doing, seek to improve theirs to compare favourably with show stock. Secondly, the findings mean that showmen are missing a good market for breeding stock because they don't have the confidence of many farmers. Thirdly, the findings should be important to the fair directors for they indicate that farmers generally are not too interested in shows as now run.

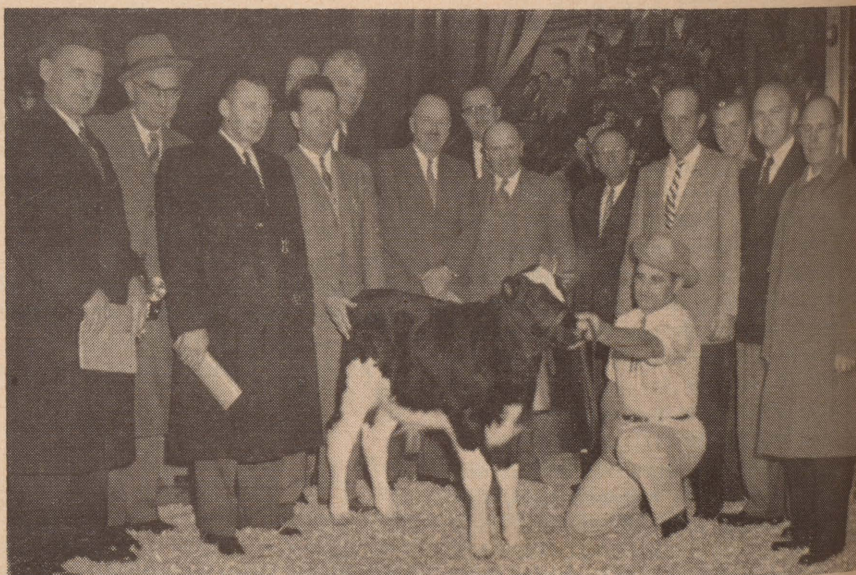
To better this situation the Farm Forums suggested that points be awarded for production or a minimum performance requirement be set for animals entering the showring. A very few groups suggest that the showring is the happy hunting ground of hobby farmers and that there should be separate

classes for hobby farmers and commercial farmers. Animals should be judged in "working condition," there should be separate classes for cattle bought and those raised, and more farmers should do performance testing, were other suggestions.

There are two sides to this whole showring problem, suggested Prof. Hamilton, head of the Department of Animal Husbandry, Macdonald College, when told of these opinions. First of all, he said, there is generally a close correlation between an animal's conformation and type and its performance so that showring standing does usually indicate the ability to produce well. For instance, dairy cows classified excellent are usually excep-

tionally good milkers. As for beef, an animal which eats enough to get overfat indicates that it possesses the ability to eat a large amount of food and transform this into flesh and fat. Although overdoing this ability to eat does frequently spoil the animal in question for breeding purposes, the ability is an inherited characteristic and a farmer can conclude that the family of the animal in question possesses this very desirable characteristic, says Prof. Hamilton. His opinion is that farmers could profitably put more confidence in the showring than the findings indicate. He suggests the problem is worthy of more study by farmers and showmen.

About the suggestion that points be awarded for performance, Don



Top Holstein news of the year was the purchase of the bull calf Rosafe Citation R. for \$30,000 by the Ontario Association of Artificial Breeders.

MacMillan, agriculturalist for Compton County, says that the Cookshire Fair already has a class for cattle with R.O.P. records. The other big drawback to this suggestion is that not sufficient farmers follow a recognized performance testing program, even in the dairy industry, to make this a practical suggestion. As for the suggestion of separate classes for hobby farmers and commercial farmers, not all forums agree on this. For instance, Hudson Forum in Vaudreuil County says that such competition is needed and is valuable. They point out that these are the producers who import costly stock which does so much to improve that of the average farmer.

Roy Berg, Director of the Department of Animal Science, University of Alberta, comments on showing standards and performance testing. "There should be no controversy about the use of Performance Testing for livestock judging. Good conformation, as established by showing standards, is a part of performance.

Perhaps the weakest part of judging in livestock improvement is its indirect approach. All through

history we have had score cards loaded with supposed indicators of productivity. Broad heads and large muzzles are supported to indicate good feeding qualities. In Performance Testing, the ability to use feed is measured directly, and this has shown that many supposed relationships on which the score card is based, DO NOT EXIST."

From all this, it seems certain that showrings are serving a very useful purpose. However, it appears that the Farm Forums are justified when they claim that today's showing standards are not always guaranteeing the best livestock for the average producer. There's no doubt that farmers, showmen, judges and our fair directors ought to take another look at showing standards.

STORE FARM FERTILIZER CAREFULLY

There are several points to remember in storing farm fertilizer safely, states the Soils Department, Ontario Agricultural College.

First, if care is not taken to keep the fertilizer away from mois-

ture, the fertilizer will cake and be hard to apply in spring. Store it in any dry place, off the floor and away from livestock. If the fertilizer must be piled, pile it in a criss-cross pattern no more than two bags wide, and no more than six bags high. Some kind of tarpaulin or cover thrown over the pile will help keep out moisture and dirt. (Fertilizer in granular form has less tendency to cake than the same fertilizer in the regular, fine form).

Second, fertilizer should be stored away from livestock. Not only will the heat of their bodies add moisture to the surrounding air, and thus contribute to the caking of the fertilizer, but the salty taste of many fertilizers is attractive to livestock, who may consume the fertilizer in amounts that could prove harmful.

Third, broken bags of fertilizer, and spilled fertilizer, can be a fire hazard, particularly if the fertilizer contains ammonium nitrate. Keeping bags of fertilizer away from livestock, hot pipes, electrical wiring, and inflammable material can be a sound fire precaution.

This is **ACHIEVEMENT!**

In this year's great Royal Winter Fair, Aberdeen Angus placed as follows in the carcass competition (and remember that carcass is the end result of beef breeding).

Section 1	475 lbs. and under First 11 were Angus
Section 2	476 lbs. to 599 lbs. The first 8 were Angus
Section 3	600 lbs. and up The first 5 were Angus

And the winner of the Queen's Guineas was an Angus!

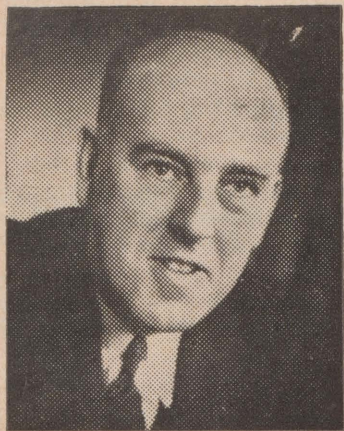
*Quebec entries were well up with the winners.
Let us tell you about our Angus.*

Quebec Aberdeen Angus Association

Robert Laberge, Pres.

Danville, Que.





John F. Hayes

BOOK-OF-THE-YEAR MEDAL

The Canadian Library Association today announced the winner of its Book-of-the-Year Medal (English language awards) to John F. Haynes of Toronto, for his book *The Dangerous Cove*, published by Copp Clark, Toronto.

The medal is offered annually for the best Canadian books for children, one in English and one in French, and is awarded by vote of the 171 members of the Canadian Association of Children's Librarians across Canada.

The Book-of-the-Year Medal is respected because it is only given in those years when a book is deemed worthy and because it is voted on by children's librarians who are specialists in their field and who know what children enjoy reading. The purpose of the Award is "to encourage the writing and publishing in Canada of good books for boys and girls by Canadian authors."

The Dangerous Cove tells the adventurous story of two boys in Newfoundland during the exciting times when the piratical Devon Captains were raiding the settlements. Mr. Hayes, who is Vice-President and General Manager of the Southam Press, Montreal and Director of the Southam Company Limited has already won two other juvenile awards. *A Land Divided* (1952) and *Rebels Ride at Night* (1954) were each Governor General's Award winners. Mr. Hayes' many books for boys are historical adventure stories.

Other winners of the Book-of-the-Year are *Starbuck Valley Winter*, by R. L. Haig-Brown, *Kristli's Trees* by B. M. Dunham, *Franklin of the Arctic*, by R. S. Lambert, *The Sun Horse*, by C. A. Clark,

Mgr. de Laval, by E. Gervais, S.J., *Train for Tiger Lily*, by Louise Riley, *Glooskap's country*, by Cyrus Macmillan, *Lost in the Barrens*, by Farley Mowat and *Le Chevalier du Roi* by Beatrice Clement.

A bronze medal struck with the year and the name of the book will be presented at a Banquet during the meetings of the Canadian Library Association next June in Edmonton.

The announcement was issued from the headquarters of the Canadian Library Association in Ottawa, by Helen M. Lothian, Chairman of the Canadian Association of Children's Librarians, which is the children's librarians section of the Canadian Library Association.

EXPERTS SEEK CLUE IN WINTER KILLING

Like professional criminals, Quebec winters destroy all possible clues after playing havoc with perennial crops.

It has always been difficult to pinpoint what it is about winter that kills plants, since estimates of damage are made in the spring after the evidence has been wiped clean.

Tests Under Way

But tests are under way at the Central Experimental Farm that may throw some light on the subject.

Canada Department of Agriculture field husbandry experts are reviving sample plots of field crops from winter dormancy and stimulating them to grow by placing a small, bottomless growth chamber over them.

Heat and light are supplied artificially. Snow and soil thaw and the plants begin to grow. The re-growth and vigor are indicative of the amount of winter-kill up to that time. By placing the chamber on various plots periodically through the winter, damage to crops by various weather factors can be evaluated.

Effect of Ice

After two winters of research, it is known that ice sheets are disastrous to wintering alfalfa. Plots covered by ice for four weeks showed complete kill of plants by Dec. 20. Plots kept bare during the 1956-57 winter resulted in com-

plete kill by Feb. 1. On the other hand, four inches of snow over alfalfa caused 100 per cent survival of the crop.

During mid-December last year, a warm spell started alfalfa growing in the fields. A subsequent cold snap caused 15 per cent winter-kill. Nearly 10 inches of snow followed and remained all winter. Injury evaluations in February showed no kill whatever.

Crop Recovers

It appeared the crop, set back by the cold spell at the first of this year, was able to fully recover in 30 days under a protective layer of snow. Little frost occurred in the soil with this new cover.

Tests spread over several winters will be required before results are considered conclusive.

SPACE TREES FOR SHELTER

Proper spacing is the key to success in farmstead shelter-belts on the prairies, says Adam W. Crookshanks of the Forest Nursery Station, Indian Head, Sask.

It may be difficult to cultivate between the rows when the trees are spaced four feet apart, he observes, but no work is needed within the belt after four or five years.

A permanently summerfallowed strip, up to 20 feet wide, on each side of the belt provides moisture reserve and prevents weeds and grass from entering the belt from the outside.

Shade from closely planted trees prevents weed growth.

Wind Barrier

This type of belt occupies little space and develops into a dense wind barrier.

Leaving 10 feet or more between rows allows use of field cultivating equipment, but only for a few years. Branches soon prevent this and yet it is many more years before a tree canopy is formed to shade the ground. In the meantime, weeds and grass become established.

Spacing of broadleaf trees in rows should not exceed four or six feet regardless of the distance between the rows. Evergreen trees may be spaced four, six or eight feet apart in a row and should be planted 15 or 20 feet from broadleaf species.

QUEBEC'S GOLD MEDAL FARMER HONOURED

More than 350 friends and neighbours gathered to make a magnificent banquet Nov. 16 for Wilfrid Lebeau, who was recently named "Commandeur de l'ordre du Merite Agricole" and Gold Medallist farmer for 1957. The celebration took place in the school in Mr. Lebeau's home town of Maskinonge and was opened by the Mayor of the Parish, Omer Rinfret. Martin Ferron of Louiseville who acted as Master of Ceremonies pointed out that Mr. Lebeau had brought a unique distinction to his neighbourhood as he was the first farmer from Maskinonge County ever to win this great honor. (The award has been made annually since 1880.)

A most distinguished guest for the event was the Hon. Laurent Barre, Minister of Agriculture for Quebec. Mr. Barre noted that Mr. Lebeau was not only a wonderful farmer but that he had given freely of his time and effort to various community endeavours and that he was the President of the local branch of the Union of Catholic Farmers. "This success which is the crowning glory of your career," he said, "was in very great part due to the devoted help of your wife and the spirit of the whole Lebeau family. And it is families such as yours which are responsible for the solidity of our French-Canadians today, and for keeping them a secure fortress of spiritual values in a world which is filling rapidly with materialism."

QUEBEC DUAL PURPOSE SHORTHORN BULL GRAND CHAMPION AT THE ROYAL

For the second year in a row, Quebec Dual Purpose Shorthorn breeders showed the Grand Champion bull at the Royal Winter Fair. Last year it was Smith Bros., of St. Hermas. This year it was C. N. Abbott of Varennes, Vercheres, with the 5-year-old Semper Grendon Wild Eyes. One of the biggest bulls of any breed in the entire Show, he first won a strong class of seven mature bulls and went on to further honours.

The Abbott herd also supplied the winning dry female, Dauntless Roxan, as well as third prize animal in a class of thirteen mature milking cows. This was for the twelve-year-old cow, Semper Abitibi, the oldest cow in the Show, being shown at an age where most animals have retired from active competition.

Letters . . .

(Continued from page 7)

he does not cultivate the habit of reading. His arithmetic suffers when he cannot read the problems. His English and Composition suffer when he does not read anything more than the minimum requirement work for his grade.

To come to the point, I decided to write letters to my grandson. He might enjoy receiving mail addressed to him. A secret or something interesting or exciting for himself alone in that letter might give him a thrill. If he found the letter on his level of interest he might read it over and try to master it. Words which I knew he had difficulty to spell were repeated. Alas, my printing was all wrong as Joey politely told me. "Gramma, we don't use capitals — only sometimes." So now I have the letter forms which are used in the first grades.

Children love stories. They should be read to. They have to be interested in the written word before one can expect them to want to read, and older people who have time on their hands, can help.

Edna C. Laurie
Hemmingford, Que.

Wrong Number

Dear Mr. Green:-

I wish to take this opportunity to say how much I enjoy reading

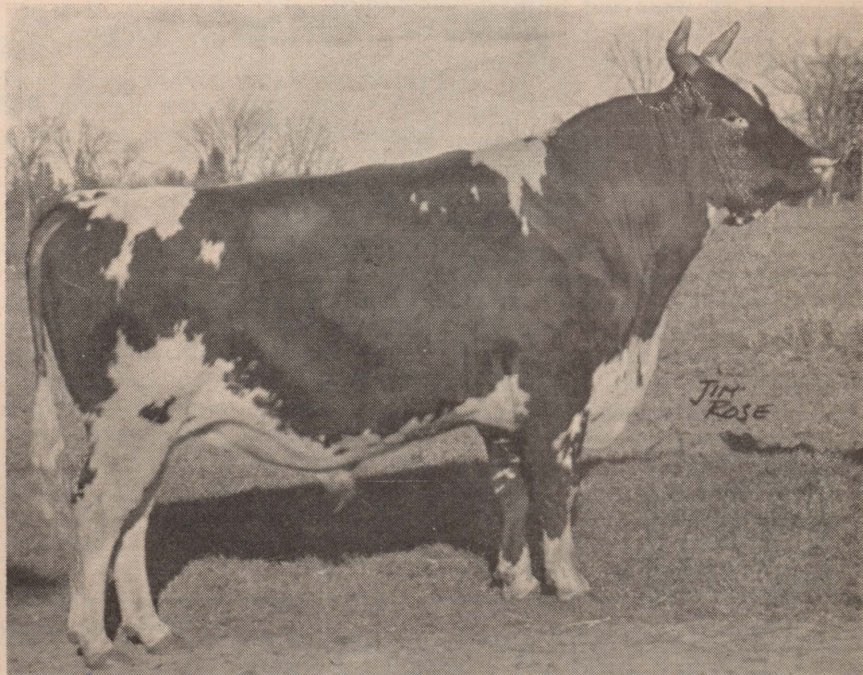
the Macdonald Farm Journal. Quebec farmers have always been looking for news about their local fairs, ploughing matches, and etc.; especially since the other Quebec Farm papers did not do so. Among the many requests we receive at the Quebec Farm Radio Forum Office is for us to try and get local news in a farm paper such as the Macdonald Farm Journal. It is not our policy to dictate to any paper as to what they should write, but I think you are well on the way to filling their wish.

As leader of the Lachute 4-H Calf Club, I was quite disappointed with the picture on page 28 of your November issue. Under the picture it says "Visitors at Macdonald College, L, to R. Front Row: Davis and not Denis MacVicar and Donald Parker, of Lachute." I am sorry to say that the above picture is not of them. I hope you will be able to publish the correct picture in a future issue as I am sure Davis and Donald will be quite disappointed when they see it.

Your truly,
Ross Oswald, President,
Que. Farm Radio Forum.
—Leader,
Lachute 4-H Calf Club.

Editor's Note: We are checking with the Quebec Department of Agriculture who forwarded this print, to see if we can find the right picture. Sorry.

RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION BULL AT OTTAWA WINTER FAIR



Macdonald Copestone, 1st prize aged bull Senior and Reserve Grand Champion at Ottawa Winter Fair for Wm. J. McIlwain & Sons, Vanleek Hill, Ontario. He was also Reserve Grand Champion at the 1958 Central Canada Exhibition.

QUEBEC FARMERS TO HAVE OWN LINE OF PETROLEUM PRODUCTS

A complete new line of petroleum products — gas, diesel oil, motor oils and greases — will shortly be available to Quebec farmers. The ownership of the new service is its unique feature; it is owned by some 54,000 farmers in this Province. These farmers are members of local co-ops which are members of the central wholesale supply co-op, the Coopérative Fédérée de Québec.

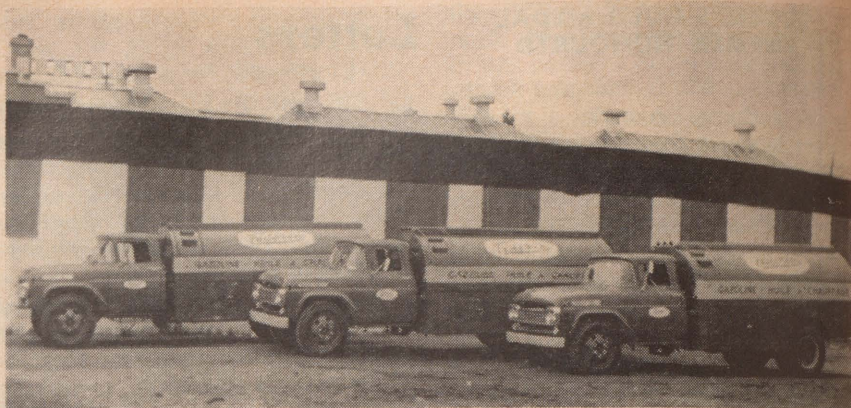
Prospects for the future of this petroleum service are rosy indeed. The 1956 census shows that 52,738 Quebec farms have automobiles. 28,758 have trucks and 54,522 are equipped with tractors while 21,450 possess gasoline engines. Each farmer uses slightly more than an average of 800 gallons of gas per year. There are about 120,000 farmers in the Province. A few calculations show that the distribution potential for petroleum products is immense. They also show that the cost of petroleum products on farms is increasing each year. Through this service the co-op hopes to reduce one item in the farm cost of production.

Experience in other parts of Canada proves that the provision of petroleum products can be a profitable co-op venture. 22% of the gross revenue of wholesale co-ops in Canada is derived from trade in petroleum products. The Federated Co-operative Limited in Saskatchewan owns oil wells and refineries. Last year Ontario co-operatives sold \$5¼ million of petroleum products.

Announcing the new service, Mr. Romeo Martin, assistant general manager and secretary of Coopérative Fédérée executive council, stated: — "As a result of the progress accomplished in the mechanization of our farms, the consumption of petroleum products on the farm represents an ever increasing part of the money spent on farm supplies. It is, therefore, natural that the Coopérative Fédérée has decided to enter this field."

An agreement has been reached with a large petroleum company giving the Co-op the exclusive rights for distribution of its products to farmers. The contract also assures that the quality of the products shall be maintained at a high level.

To assure an adequate supply of petrol products at all times, the Fédérée has its own fleet of tank



Some of the trucks which will be used in the Co-op's new fuel and gas service.

trucks which transport the gas from the refineries and maritime terminals to the co-ops in charge of local distribution. Not all local co-ops will act as retail outlets. Because of the high cost of the service and the capital investment required, a single co-op may act as an outlet for a region in which there are a number of co-ops. The products will be sold at the prevailing competitive price, and savings made by the co-op will be refunded to member farmers at the end of each year. Farmers may obtain tanks for farm storage of gas from their co-op outlet. Transportation from the local outlet to the farm will vary depending on circumstances. Co-ops have a choice of purchasing their own trucks for farm delivery

or hiring a distributor, whichever will provide the best service for members.

Whitin the last five months some fifty retail outlets have been organized in the Province. These cover the districts around Sherbrooke, Lake St. John, St. Hyacinthe and Joliette. Plans are being considered for an outlet in Papi-neau County next. The petroleum service is under the machinery division of the Coopérative Fédérée and is directed by Michel Clapin and Gilbert Mireault. The Quebec Farmers' Association and the Union Catholique des Cultivateurs are promoting the service which is a giant stride forward by Quebec farmers in their program of co-operative self-help.

Pros and Cons... Roostless Houses

BY JOE W. SICER

Chickens have perched on a roost ever since trees were created. But in recent years some poultrymen have left perches out of their chicken houses. Are they needed?

THE question of perches or no perches is not just a matter of making the hens happy. It is a question which involves some basic problems that can definitely affect your net returns.

If you are concerned about the matter—and a surprisingly large number of people seem to be — there are a number of factors which you should consider:

1. The kind of chickens you keep.
2. How lack of roosts will affect your management practices.
3. The seasons of the year during which you use the house for layers.

4. The construction of your house and equipment.

Leghorns like the roost . . .

In general, leghorn-type chickens want to roost. If you don't give them perches, they will roost on the feeders, nests, or any ledge where they can get a foothold. Forced to stay on the floor, they often are inclined to pile and climb on top of one another. Because of this natural preference, it is usually wise to give them perches unless the birds are on slatted or wire floors.

Some heavy breeds, on the other hand, especially broiler-type birds, are too lazy or too heavy to want to make the effort to jump up on a roost. Training them to roost is often a time-consuming and disheartening job. You think, "What's the use? They would rather stay on the floor anyway!"

But without roosts, other problems arise.

Wet litter big problem . . .

With no roosting racks (or dropping pits as some call them) all of the droppings go into the litter. The job of keeping the litter dry is increased. The litter often becomes packed and caked unless you have excellent ventilation conditions.

Wet litter calls for stirring, the use of lime or superphosphate, and the addition of fresh litter. This means time and money that probably could be saved if roosting racks were used.

In addition, wet litter means more dirty eggs. In addition, there seems to be a tendency for more floor eggs when the birds roost on the floor.

Treating for lice is complicated when the birds do not take to the perches. It is no longer simply a matter of painting the perches with lindane to rid the flock of lice. Instead, it is necessary to use a dust such as malathion, in the litter and treat the entire floor.

Should the house become infected with red mites when the birds are on the floor, you would have quite a problem on your hands because the mites probably will be all over the house. With perches, mites are no problem if you paint the perches and their supports once a year with anthracene oil.

The idea of doing away with roosts began a number of years ago with those heavy breed owners who started chicks very early in the year. These pullets would come into production during the summer when litter condition is not a problem. They would be "laid out" by December and would be sold to make room for another early brood of chicks. Wet litter had not had time to become serious.

Today, breeding and more knowledge of feeding and management has made it possible to get profitable production from meat-type birds over a longer period. This means that these birds are in the house during seasons when wet litter can be a real problem.

If your house is poorly insulated and ventilation has always been a worry, your troubles probably will be increased with the birds roosting on the floor. Birds grouped tightly together on the floor do not have the air circulation around them that is possible with birds up on roosts. They are closer to ammonia fumes, which may become a stress on the layers.

Even with heavy breeds, there usually are some birds in the flock that will want to settle down on a perch somewhere. They can be a nuisance on feeders, waterers, or

nests and may necessitate some costly changes or modifications of equipment to keep them off.

Actually, even some of the most ardent advocates of floor roosting want to have enough low perches to handle about one-fourth to one-third of the flock. These perches satisfy those birds that want to roost high but, more important, they serve as an "escape" for the timid birds, affording them a place where they can rest without constant threat of being pecked.

Some advantages . . .

Floor roosting does have some advantages, however.

There is the saving of the cost of building roosting racks, if you are putting up a new house. There also is a saving in the cost of keeping existing roosts in repair.

You eliminate the time-consuming job of scraping and scrubbing the roosts and racks during the annual house cleanup.

The rats, which sometimes become quite bothersome in the accumulated droppings under roosting racks, are at least forced to change their habits.

You no longer have the often exasperating job of training pullets to take to the perches. Why is it that pullets may roost like veterans in the range houses, but seem to lose all of that instinct when moved to the laying house?

- *The largest and most effective co-operative organization wholly owned and controlled by the farmers of the Province of Quebec . . .*

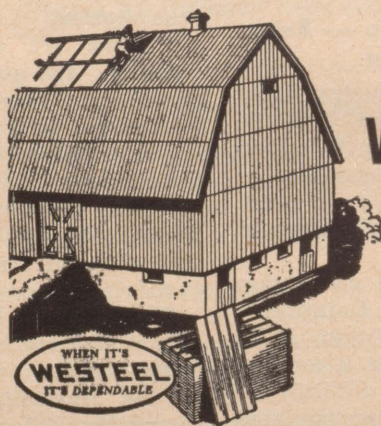
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R.A.W.F. CARCASS COMPETITIONS

A fine display of prize-winning beef, pork and lamb carcasses was again featured in the refrigerated show cases at this year's Royal. The auction sale of these carcasses took place on Monday morning, November 17th.

In the beef carcass competition there were 107 entries (128 last year) with 47 in the light class (up to 475 lb.), 48 in the middle class (476 lb. to 599 lb.) and 12 in the heavy class (over 600 lb.). Angus entries again scored strongly in the competition this year, taking all but 5 of the top 40 placings.

The Champion Carcass was shown by a 4-H Club boy, Harold Patterson of R. 1, Milton, Ontario. His entry, a 740 lb. Angus steer in the Light class, sold for \$1.50 per lb. to Hales Meat Market, Guelph. Harold will hold the Alex G. Hall Trophy. The Reserve Champion in Angus, from the Heavy class, was shown by Raymond Hill of R.R. 1, Strathroy, Ontario. It sold for 70 cents per lb. The over-all price for 107 carcasses was 50.4 cents, 10 cents higher than last year.

The hog carcass competition had the usual three sections — The Brethour Trophy (40 entries), the Todd Trophy Event (73 entries) and the Breeder-Market Class (17 entries). A new feature this year was the fact that it was an all-barrow show, with a new Master Feeds Award for Grand Champion Barrow Carcass and Reserve.

The entry of Davern Farms, of Hamilton, a Landrace entered in the Todd Trophy event, was Grand Champion, with the top entry of Lt. Col. G. C. Reeves of Bath in the Breeder-Market class awarded the Reserve. The Champion sold for \$1.90 per lb. to F. W. Fearman & Co., with the same buyer taking the Reserve Champion at \$1.75.

The average price received for the Brethour Carcasses sold in the auction was 60½ cents (including the Champions) for the Todd winners 47.3 cents and for the Breeder-Market class 44.7 cents. The general average was higher than a year ago.

The lamb carcass event had 30 entries. Both the Grand and Reserve Champion carcasses were exhibited by James C. Bell of Shake-

speare, Ontario and sold to Hales Meat Market of Guelph for \$1.35 and 95 cents, respectively. The average for 30 carcasses was 55.9 cents per lb.

Live barrows and lambs

In the live market swine and lamb classes, the new Massey-Ferguson Award for the Champion live barrow went to Alfred J. Poole of Kemnay, Manitoba, with Hooker Bros. of Ormstown, Quebec, the Reserve winner. In the auction sale on Tuesday, the two champions brought 75 cents and 50 cents per lb. respectively, from Canada Packers Limited. The Champion pen of three was shown by Ernest Pritchard of Roland, Manitoba. The average price for single barrows in the sale was 35 cents per lb., with the pens of three averaging 33.3 cents.

The Grand Champion wether lamb, shown by Clarence Knights and Sons of Mull, Ontario, sold for \$1.50 in the sale, with the Champion pen of three, shown by George S. Brien and Son of Ridgetown, bringing 75 cents. The average price for single lambs was 31.7 cents, for pens of three 30.2 cents and, for pens of 10, 27 cents.

DAIRY MARKETS MUST BE FOUND

Fewer Cows Give More — Butter Stocks Grow

Canada's dairy industry must find a way to increase domestic consumption of milk or to obtain export markets if the record level of production continues — warned R. H. Gillan, Canada Department of Agriculture.

He told the annual convention of the New Brunswick Dairymen's Association at Fredericton, N.B., that unless this is done it may be necessary to face some difficult decision in disposing of accumulated stocks of dairy products.

Mr. Gillan, supervisor of Grading in the Dairy Products Division, said that while the nation's cow population has decreased, milk production per cow has steadily increased.

During the first ten months this year, every province except Nova Scotia increased its butter production, with the overall boost being 13 per cent. By October, over 34,000,000 pounds more butter had been graded this year than in 1957.

And, Mr. Gillan pointed out, there was a downward trend in domestic consumption.

"If we are to maintain consumption, the quality of creamery butter must be guarded carefully," he told the dairymen.

Cheese production decreased from the same period in 1957, with grading figures down about 8,000,000 pounds. Quality was a little higher, with about 67 per cent of all cheese qualifying for payment of premium.

Noting that a late October surge of United Kingdom interest in Canadian cheese cleaned out holdings of the Agricultural Stabilization Board, Mr. Gillan gave as reasons: (1) A sharp decrease in U.K. milk production; and (2) New Zealand is in a period of off-season production.

The grading supervisor also referred to the skyrocketing production of dry skimmed milk which led to the stabilization board placing a quota on the quantity of powder it would buy from each plant up to the end of April.

He predicted the quota action would cause a diversion of milk to cheesemaking.

50 COWS MILKED SIMULTANEOUSLY

There are only two Rotolactors — rotating milking machines at which fifty cows can be milked simultaneously — in the world.

The original one is at Plainsboro, N.J.; the second is at Camden Park, Menangle, New South Wales; it was modeled on the American installation, but has special adaptations to suit local dairying conditions.

The circular building, eighty feet in diameter, is made of reinforced concrete, glass, stainless steel and aluminum, and looks more like an airline terminal than a milking shed.

**ADVERTISING
DEADLINE FOR
JANUARY ISSUE
JANUARY 1st**

The Country Lane

I WISH

I wish that every child could know the rural charm . .
Which casts its spell on all who spend a summer on
the farm.

I wish that every city kid could see the lovely dawn . .
With pasture grass a-sparkle till the morning dew is
gone . . .

And then behold the brilliant blooms of flowers grow-
ing wild . . .

A gift the Lord has sent to show His love for every
child.

I wish that kids from city streets could play in stacks
of hay . . .

And feed the cows and chickens and could also find
their way . . .

To brooks and streams that trickle through the splen-
dor of the woods

And know that Mother Nature owns far more than
worldly goods,

I wish the kids who play in streets could see the won-
drous sight . . .

Of sunsets as they slowly fade from gold to gray of
night . . .

And here the soothing melody that sighs through
friendly trees . . .

To bring to man and bird and beast a blessings on the
breeze.

For youngsters would be better off if they would know
the charm . . .

Which casts its spell on all who spend a summer on
the farm.

—Author Unknown

THE OXEN

Christmas Eve, and twelve of the clock.
'Now they are all on their knees,'
An elder said as we sat in a flock
By the embers of hearthside ease.

We pictured the meek mild creatures where
They dwelt in their strawy pen,
Nor did it occur to one of us there
To doubt they were kneeling then.

So fair a fancy few would weave
In these years! Yet, I feel,
If someone said on Christmas Eve,
'Come; see the oxen kneel,

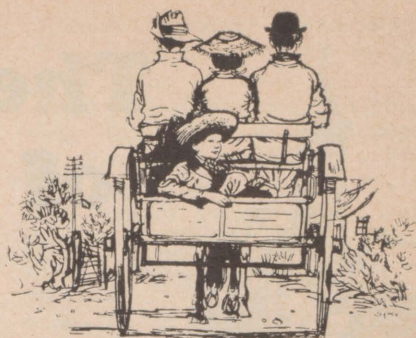
'In the lonely barton by yonder coomb
Our childhood used to know,'
I should go with him in the gloom,
Hoping it might be so.

Thomas Hardy

EPITAPH

Tend not the rose above my head,
Nor sweep the leaf from off my bed;
But so let dust and dust combine
That next year's rose be truly mine.
And I'd as lief the leaf should be
By next year's summer — truly me.

P. St. C. Assinder.



THE LOON

We rinsed our coffee cups in the chill lake water
And folded the picnic cloth with the fringed border.
We quenched the fire; it hissed like a nest of vipers
In a ring of stones. Still we lingered on the pebbly
shore

While the forest darkened at our back, while the sky
paled

To apple green. And then the loon appeared,
Breast white on the water, head a black triangle
Set with a spark of ruby eye.

Conceit or whim, or something in the dimming day
Tempted him to give a star performance, almost
As though he knew the audience would marvel,
Peering with foolish wonder from the land.

At last without a sound he cleft the gleaming,
The cold, eternal, rock-caverned water and was gone;
An opening fan of breeze swept clear the stage.
Indian-file we took the path through twilit woods
Sweet with the scent of twin-flowers, linnaea borealis.
From the far shore where the light lay longest,
From some silvery inlet of lilies and bog myrtle,
The loon gave a broken, mirthless cry
That shivered over the warm flesh of creatures
Hastening from the night to roof and shelter,
Distant ten thousand years from the dark lake margin.

Lenore Pratt

THE KITCHEN CHIMNEY

Builder, in building the little house,
In every way you may please yourself;
But please please me in the kitchen chimney:
Don't build me a chimney upon a shelf.

However far you must go for bricks,
Whatever they cost a-piece or a pound,
Buy me enough for a full-length chimney,
And build the chimney clear from the ground.

It's not that I'm greatly afraid of fire,
But I never heard of a house that throve
(And I know of one that didn't thrive)
Where the chimney started above the stove.

And I dread the ominous stain of tar
That there always is on the papered walls,
And the smell of fire drowned in rain
That there always is when the chimney's false.

A shelf's for a clock or vase or picture,
But I don't see why it should have to bear
A chimney that only would serve to remind me
Of castles I used to build in air.

Robert Frost



The Bells of Cedarville

by

H. GORDON GREEN



An old fashioned story for an old fashioned Christmas.

JIMMY was only five and he wasn't tall enough to see over the crescent of snow that rimmed the bottom of the storm window, so he had to climb on to the edge of the woodbox, and there he stood with his little nose and forehead pressed flat and white against the glass.

It was a dreary scene, with certainly very little in it to interest such a small boy. Just miles and miles of white rolling fields with stumps sticking up here and there through the snow, and in the hollows between the humps of cleared land, the inevitable swamp. Jimmy lived in new country, a part of Ontario just opening up. He lived with his mother in a humble little three-room cabin snuggled so low against the earth that the snow sometimes climbed right up the west wall and on to the roof, and when Jimmy got out of bed in the morning after a storm his window would be banked to the top and the light would seep through the snow feeble and weary and gray like the light you see through an old woman's ear. It had been like that this morning when he got up, and Jimmy had been wondering if the roads were going to be so heavy for Christmas that Santa Claus couldn't get through. The storm would have to stop pretty soon. This was the twenty-fourth.

Jimmy asked his mother about it.

The folks in the settlement called Jimmy's mother Junie. The letters the postman dropped off said Mrs. Junie Wilson. Jimmy had never seen his father. Not that he could remember at least. To him, father was the man who looked at him from the picture his mother always kept on the dresser. Father was dead.

Junie had been trying to carry on alone for two years now. But

when you had to pay a hired man all summer and when you had to rely on the money the wood brought for the winter months, it was not easy to farm in that rough country round Cedarville. But Junie was not the kind to complain. Had she not been so timid and close lipped about her troubles folks might have helped her. But when she always had a smile for everybody in the community, how could they suspect that she often had scarcely enough to keep the wolf from the door?

Junie came over and put her arm about the little boy who was worrying about the state of the roads and Santa Claus. Her face was calm and quiet and kind despite the lines that care and hardship had left. She took the little hand in her hard calloused one and clung to it tightly for a moment without saying a word. "I guess there'll be a little something in your stocking for to-morrow morning," she said cheerfully. "You've been a very good boy. But then Santa Claus always did find it hard to bring much to the folks round here for some reason. You won't expect too much, will you?"

Jimmy looked down at his mother's hand and began tracing a small finger along one of the big veins. "Just anything will do, Mummy," he said. "Our Sunday School teacher told us we shouldn't

be selfish. Specially at Christmas. And when I said my prayers last night I wasn't selfish. I said 'just anything, Lord.'"

"Mr. Murdoch is a fine old man, I must say," Junie told him, "and I'm glad you like him for a Sunday School teacher. Now let's you and me get ready to go to the village. If we can get through with our old horse, we'll know that Santa Claus can get through too."

She took Jimmy into the bedroom and started detaching his yellow hair. And in her mind's eye she was already living the simple delight of to-morrow's Christmas with Jimmy. She looked again into the broken vase where she kept her money. Five dollars and eight cents. Well, it wasn't very much and she certainly could use it in a hundred and one ways and there wouldn't be any more money coming in until a road could be broken into the bush. But she had potatoes and turnips in the cellar and a cow in the stable and hens in the henhouse. She wouldn't starve for a while. And even had it meant starvation, nothing was going to stop Junie from having the Christmas she had planned.

At the village she had picked out a little toy train. The storekeeper had put it away for her until she could come to claim it with the cash. It wasn't an expensive

train. It didn't run on a track. The engine didn't wind. It was just a painted pull toy. But it would make Jimmy the happiest boy in the section. It cost two dollars and fifty cents.

Junie had just started to pull Jimmy's mittens on, when a heavy knock sounded at the back door, and then without waiting for the answer, the door swung open.

"It's Ben Hawke," Junie said cheerfully: "Come in, Ben!"

Ben was a big, progressive-looking, middle-aged man, and you could tell by the brisk way he stomped the snow from his feet and shook it from the depths of his fur coat, that he was no idler. Ben was in fact the most prosperous farmer of the section. He and his hired man Murdock lived alone next farm up the road. Ben had always been too practical a man to marry. Never any time to waste on anything but business. That's why he was over here now.

"Going into the village to-day?" he asked.

"Why yes we are, Ben. I've got all my Christmas shopping to do yet. Want me to do yours too?"

"Naw. I never did go in much for presents and that stuff at Christmas. You know that. I was just needing a float for the cream separator. I don't know just how much it will be but I'll pay you for it when you come back. O.K.?"

Junie made a rapid calculation in her head. The float certainly wouldn't cost over two dollars. She could spare that till evening.

"Sure Ben. I'll be glad to do that for you."

Ben drew on his big fur gloves again and slapped Jimmy on the back. "Hello, there, old man," he said merrily. "I wish I had a big boy like you. I'd make money on him. I'd put him to slashing wood. When are you coming up to see us again, Jimmy?"

"Maybe to-morrow," Jimmy said. "I'll show you my present."

"Swell. You might do that. Murdock will be wanting to see you too." Ben said good-bye and plunged out through the snow toward his home. He had scarcely got out of the lane when he saw Joe Baer coming up from the opposite direction. Joe turned to go in.

"Well, now," Ben thought, "I wonder what brings him up to see the widow a day like this. Dare say it's nothing good." But Ben had no time for idle conjecture and so he left it at that and hurried home.

Joe Baer had come for money.

"Hate to be asking for it like this, Mrs. Wilson," he said "but I figured it was about time I was collecting for that calf. Your husband never did pay any more than the half that time, you know,"

Junie felt limp and quivery. "I'm sorry, Joe," she managed to say. "I'm afraid I don't know just what you're talking about . . . It's about the calf you sold us that summer my husband died?"

"Yes, Mrs. Wilson. That's the one. Mr. Wilson bought it for ten dollars. He just had the five to pay me then. He was going to pay me the rest later. Then for a long time after he died I hated to say anything about it, and I guess I never would have, but it's Christmas to-morrow you know, and I've got a house full of kids and I couldn't figure out any other way to buy anything less I collected . . . Do you think you could let me have it to-day, Mrs. Wilson?"

Perhaps Junie was too soft. Perhaps she should have simply said, "No Joe, I really haven't the money today. Now if you could call around in a week or so. . . ." And perhaps Junie did the right thing. After all she did owe the money. And Joe had six children. She had one. And she knew that she could never enjoy that time she had planned for Jimmy if it had been the means of a sorrowful and empty Christmas for the Baer family.

So she said, "Why yes, Joe. I'll get the money right away. Wait a minute, will you? . . . Here it is and a merry, merry Christmas to you and the wife and the children." And with that merry exclamation duly spoken and Joe on his happy homeward way again, Junie went into her room and threw herself onto her bed. Frantically she tried to hold back the sobs. She buried her face in the pillow. She stuffed the pillow into her mouth. But Jimmy, standing at the door, and looking at her with the silent and incredible wisdom of childhood, knew that tragedy had struck. He came over and lay on the bed alongside of his mother and for a long time he just stayed there nuzzled close against her.

"Don't cry, Mummy," he said softly. "Why do you cry?"

Junie put her arm about his little shoulders but she didn't lift her head out of the pillow. "I'm afraid there'll be no present this Christmas," she said. "Mummy has no money now."

Jimmy couldn't understand. "You don't need money to pay Santa Claus," he said.

And then Junie took the pillow away from her face and wiped her eyes, and her face got a little hard and stern. "Jimmy," she said, "you're old enough to know this now. There is no Santa Claus." Her voice had grown unnaturally firm. Even bitter perhaps. "Santa Claus is just a story. The only Santa Claus is your mother or father. Sometimes they dress up like Santa Claus. Sometimes they just put the present on the tree at night when you're asleep and make you think it was Santa. But the truth is that somebody's got to pay for every single thing a boy gets. You don't get something for nothing in this world, Jimmy. I wish it were different, but it isn't and you might as well know it now . . . Mummy was going into the village to-day to buy your present, but I can't now."

Jimmy still didn't see why that should make his mummy cry. "It's all right, Mummy. We don't have to have any present. We can have a tree and cook a chicken, can't we? And besides I'm going to get a present. I prayed for one last night. There is a God, isn't there?"

Junie had to dredge a bit for an answer. "Yes," she said. "There is a God."

"And it isn't just your Mummy or your Dad, like Santa Claus was?"

"No Jimmy. God is different. In fact that's why we really have Christmas."

"Then why won't I get a present, Mummy? I asked for one in my prayers last night. Mr. Murdock said we got what we prayed for."

Junie didn't have any answer at all this time. "Come on, let's get your mittens on again and we'll go back and cut down a tree. We can have that anyhow," she said.

So that afternoon they put up the tree, and Junie cut up little streamers from the red part of paper flour bags, and hunted up bits of gaily coloured string long saved up for just such an occasion, and hung a bit of balsam tied with ribbon in the window. Junie made a desperate effort to be gay and as long as Jimmy was with her to keep up a merry prattle; she succeeded fairly well.

But that night when Jimmy had gone into the bedroom and she was standing beside him trying

to help him say his prayers, she had to bite her lip hard to keep back the tears.

"God bless Mummy," he said, "and Ben Hawke and Mr. Murdock and all the little boys and girls who don't have any Christmas tree. And bring me a little present for to-morrow. Just anything, Lord, Amen!" And then utterly happy and content, he kissed his mother and ducked under the covers. "Got to get up early to see my present, Mummy!" he said.

Junie rushed from the room. She wanted to get out of his sight before she had to cry again. But in the kitchen Ben was waiting. He had come in this time without knocking, and he too had been standing there listening to Jimmy's prayer.

"Good evening, Junie," he said. "I didn't knock for fear I might wake the young lad, but I see he's just now gone to roost. Did you get the float for me?"

Junie got red in the face in spite of herself. "Well, Ben," she sputtered. "I—I didn't think I'd better try to make the trip. The roads are still pretty heavy and it kept blowing so—"

Something told Ben not to press the subject any further. "That's O.K. Junie," he said. "I really don't need it that bad. And I'll be going in to town pretty soon myself. Well, I guess I got to be going. Old Murdock's getting ready to go to a Carol sing somewheres so I got to go back and look after things.. Good night, Junie."

Outside Ben was not long in turning things over in his head and arriving at an explanation. Junie didn't go to town because she's out of money," he was thinking. "I know danged well she'd be to town for a present for that kid if she had any money at all." And then the thought suddenly broke on him. "That's what Joe Baer came up for! Money! The poor girl's busted! . . . And that kid praying for a present. No wonder she looked like she was ready to cry."

At home that night he talked it over with Murdock. "That's what I hate about this Christmas business," Ben said taking an angry spit at the fire. "You fill a kid all full of them fairy tales about Santa Claus and God pouring trinkets out of the skies on Christmas Eve, and then when something like this happens and the kid doesn't get anything, you make a sour old man out of him. It's a danged

crime."

Old Murdock looked up from polishing his shoes. "Well, now, I never did go in much for Santa Claus down at the Sunday School, so you can't blame me for that. But I do teach them to pray."

"God or Santa Claus, it's all the same," said Ben. "There's going to be no present in Jimmy's house to-morrow morning."

"Maybe you or I could hike to town, sometime to-morrow and get one," Murdock suggested.

Ben was angry. "After Christmas that's O.K. with me," he said, "but right now that's exactly what we shouldn't do! You want me to put some kind of a present on his doorstep just because he prayed for it? You want me to help him believe a fairy tale?"

Murdock got a little angry then. "God ain't no fairy tale," he said.

"Well, then, Jimmy's going to have a present for Christmas I suppose?"

"Maybe."

Ben was disgusted. "Look here!" he said, "If Jimmy gets a present, it certainly isn't going to be something from Heaven. It's going to be from me or you or his mother or somebody that's heard him praying for it. And that's the only way he'll ever get it!"

Murdock shook his head. "Not so sure," he said. "Might be something pop right out of the blue, so to speak."

Ben took another spit at the stove. "If there is, I'll hang three bells in the church," he grunted. And the argument being over, he began thinking what he could do to help Junie out of her narrow circumstances. But he wasn't going to do it until after Christmas. That was against his principles.

In the morning before he was out of bed, Ben heard someone kicking at his door. He jumped into his pants and drew the bolt. It was Jimmy and nuzzled in the crook of his arm and wound in a scarf, was a little animated ball of fur.

"It's a puppy!" the boy shouted. "And I've got five more of them at home!"

Ben's bottom jaw dropped a notch. "You've got no dog at your place," he said. "Where did you get them?"

"I got them for Christmas," Jimmy said. "I prayed for them,"

Jimmy's mother was plunging up the lane breathless from trying to follow her excited son. "I heard something scratching at the door last night after you left,"

she explained. "And when I got there it was an old hound. She was shivering and I thought I'd better let her in out of the cold. This morning the wood-box was full of pups."

"Some hunter's probably lost her," Ben thought. "Probably a danged good dog. That's a likely looking pup . . . Now that's strange that the critter would come around on Christmas Eve like that . . ."

"Oh, I don't know. The voice was crisp and merry. It was old Murdock. He was hitching his suspenders behind and looking at Jimmy and the pup with a strange twinkle in his eyes. "Merry Christmas, everybody!" he said. And then he looked at Ben. "Looks like our church is going to have a bell in the tower at last. Three of them in fact!"

Ben and Murdock argued about it a little that next month. It was only a coincidence, Ben said. But old Murdock insisted that it was a coincidence that happened because a little boy said his prayers, and that was enough. And finally Ben became jovial about it and ordered the bells. And there they are to-day in a little white church in Cedarville to ring out the call to worship through all the seasons. If you are reading this on Christmas Eve, they may be ringing right now. And in the church below the bells, Ben Hawke now sits in the same pew with Jimmy and his mother, for the bells rang for a wedding not so long ago.

But that's another story.



STRAW, MANURE MULCH DISPLACED BY PLASTIC

Science has come up with a new protection for plants during the growing season — a polyethylene plastic mulch.

Use of straw and manure mulches on plants during the winter has long been an accepted horticultural practice. These mulches have also been used during growing seasons to reduce soil compactness and evaporation of soil moisture, to improve fertility and to control weeds.

But using organic mulching materials during the growing season has meant applying nitrogenous fertilizers to decompose straw, the introduction of weed seeds in straw and manures, and the reduction of soil temperatures when heavy rates are used for weed control.

Some Advantages

Indications are these disadvantages may be partially overcome by use of polyethylene plastic mulch, says Horticulturist W. E. Torfason of the Lethbridge, Alta., Experimental Farm.

Preliminary tests showed early-season soil temperatures were increased under the plastic mulch. Later, when plant foliage covered the soil, temperatures were comparable to those in unmulched soil.

Tomato plants grown on plastic mulch were more vigorous and produced higher yields. This is attributed to higher soil temperatures and greater use of water due to reduced evaporation.

Soil compactness was not increased by mulching and weed growth was not a problem when black plastic mulch was used. Under clear plastic, however, weeds grew rapidly and the mulch was punctured or lifted out of place.

Weeds Controlled

Mr. Torfason suggests that gardeners, interested in using plastic mulch, do so with the object of controlling weeds and conserving moisture. Benefit of higher yield will be realized, in most seasons, as a result of reduced plant competition and more adequate moisture, rather than as a direct result of the mulch.

Plastic mulches cannot replace organic mulches for winter protection.

MORE POTATOES CERTIFIED

A total of 58,855 acres of potatoes were entered for certification in 1958, according to the Plant Protection Division, Canada Department of Agriculture.

This was a slight increase over last year and the highest since 1954, when 59,360 acres were inspected.

Some 49,472 acres, or 84 per cent, passed inspection this year, compared with 48,588 acres or 84.2 per cent in 1957.

Most Popular

Out of 36 varieties entered, Sebago continued to be the most popular, with 24,577 acres inspected. This represented almost 42 per cent of all varieties entered for inspection.

Katahdin was second, with 9,399



Canada's newest domestic animal, Sika deer at the farm of Mervin Howe, Aylmer West, Ontario. The animals are of Japanese origin.

acres entered and 7,563 acres passing. Huron, a new variety developed by the Canada Department of Agriculture and licensed in 1957, made up 323 acres, of which 233 passed.

The agricultural department licensed two new varieties this year — the Fundy and the Avon — and indications are they will be popular in the Atlantic Provinces when seed becomes available.

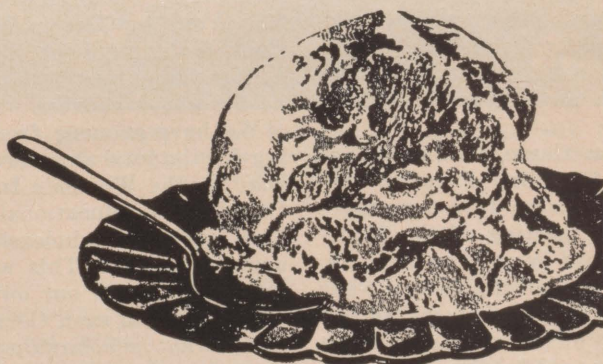
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APPLE PROBLEM

Rate of cooling of apples seems to owe more to spacing in storage than to package construction. Studies at Summerland indicated that apples packed in cardboard cartons cooled in six days when packed with air spaces between cartons and cooled in 13 days when packed solid.

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The Better Impulse

NEWS AND VIEWS OF THE
WOMEN'S INSTITUTES OF QUEBEC



Christmas Greetings

Quebec Women's Institutes Incorporated



Dear Fellow-Members of the Quebec Women's Institutes:

It is a great joy to greet you again as we approach the glorious Christmas-tide, the open season for kindness and the giving of self. Our hearts turn in adoration to the Saviour, whose holy birth the Angels heralded so long ago, the anniversary of whose coming we once more celebrate. May we, individually and collectively, do all we can to spread the message of "Peace on Earth, Good-Will to Men," bearing in mind that giving to help humanity is the only legitimate gift of the Christmas season.

The events of each day lead our minds towards the affairs of our governments and to lands across the sea. Fear grasps the hearts of men everywhere and to many, the finer things of the festive season will not appear. There will be many, for whom Christmas will be lonely, and to wish them a "MERRY CHRISTMAS" would be almost cruel. Instead, cannot the wish a "HAPPY CHRISTMAS" have real meaning and a message for them, though merriment is impossible? It

might be well to use the term universally, wishing not only a few hours of mirth, but a happiness to grow and spread throughout the year ahead.

Let us turn our thoughts to Bethlehem, and recall that event of long ago, when Nazareth help triumph over the Herods, through the birth of our Saviour. May the birthday of Christ be more to us than meat and drink, and material things and gifts. Let us travel together to Bethlehem and may each day bring us serenity, a mystic joy and comfort, because of our determination to make every day a Christmas Day.

"A little Child of holy birth
Brought new hope to all the earth — —
May this sweet story light your way
From Christmas Day to Christmas Day."

I extend the warm hand of friendship, a hearty greeting, and may God's blessing rest on each one of you.

Yours cordially and "For Home and Country,"

Anne Mac D. Harvey
Provincial President, Q.W.I. Inc.



OFFICE HAPPENINGS

The 'girls' have all been very busy this month travelling about the province giving courses. Miss Christie made a very interesting visit to Chapais; there was a workshop at Lennoxville, visits to Shawville, our new branch at Dalesville, Huntingdon and many other happenings.

J. L. Van Camp, General Manager, The Canadian Forestry Association, spoke on forest management at the meeting of the Montreal Council of Women on Nov. 19. He showed beautiful slides on what our forests and waterways should be, and also pictures of devastation and waste caused by fires, by which 3,000,000 acres of Canadian forests were destroyed this last, year. Nearly all by human carelessness. In contrast, Scandinavian had one fire 2 years ago and that was considered a national disaster. Booklets on forestry and reforestation, may be obtained from the Canadian Forestry Association, 4795 St. Catherine St. W., Montreal.

Water pollution, not only ruins our rivers and streams as beauty spots and kills the fish, but is dan-

gerous to health. This new project is now an urgent matter for study. It should interest all Institute members as we are concerned with the health of our communities. The pamphlets: *What Kills Fish can Kill You*, by Larry Wilson, and *Pure Water or Poor Water*, by J. L. Van Camp may both be procured at the above address.

We have a query from HQ asking for the total amount raised each year by the Women's Institutes in Canada for educational purposes. This includes scholarships, bursaries, prizes etc. This would be of interest to us in our own province also. So would each Country please state what scholarships, or bursaries are given in your county and the amount for prizes, etc. Send the conformation to the office at Macdonald College.

The Congress of Canadian Women is circulating a petition for the banning of nuclear tests. Just a word of warning. This is an organization with Communistic learnings and we are advised to refuse all mail from it.

Another item to note. Mrs. Bennett asks that when the essays on Citizenship for the Wilson trophy

are sent to her, that they will be accompanied by the ranking of the entries from each province, for the use of the national judges. Her address is Mrs. George Bennett, Simmie, Sask. and she must have all material by March 1, 1959.

And a merry and blessed Christmas and a bright New Year to all of you from all of us.

IN THE TEETH OF THE STORM

"I've never forgotten, years ago, listening to a district nurse cheerfully describing her work in a lonely region of northern England. She told me about a journey she had lately made one midwinter night to deliver a baby in an isolated farmhouse. Snow lay thick on the ground; and her little car was stuck in a drift before she reached the farm gate. 'What did you do then?' I said, 'Did you have to give up?' 'Give up?' said the nurse, with some indignation, 'Good gracious, no! I arrived looking like a St. Bernard dog — on four legs with my bag in my teeth!'"

Ruth Drew speaking on 'Nursing To-Day' in the BBC's General Overseas Service.

THE WOMAN'S PART

Nellie A. Parsons

CRISTMAS Day 1958. By the time you read this, Christmas may be almost over. The fragrance of the golden brown turkey, the mince pies and plum pudding, mingling with the pungent aroma of spruce and fir, may still linger in the air, but the hustle and the bustle, the excitement and happy anticipation will have passed, leaving us with pleasant memories of another Christmas to add to our store of Christmas pasts. For Christmas is a time of remembering, when the old customs restore us for a time at least, to our childhood days and to remember our childhood is to remember much of the best that life has brought us. At this season we come nearer to renewing our youth than at any other time of the year.

In this uneasy world with its tensions, intolerance and strife, where hopes and fears ebb and flow, where wars and rumours of war keep our nerves on edge, it is good that Christmas comes, bringing with it the renewal of our hope that some time, some day, there will be Peace on Earth and Goodwill toward all men. It is easier by far for us to go on our way complacently enjoying the good things of the season, leaving to the Great Powers and the United Nations the task of solving the complex problems of international peace and we say, "What can I do? How can I help prevent another war?" Thus we tacitly assume that any effort on the part of the individual would be futile. But that is where we are mistaken, for the role of the individual is the determining factor. Human progress through the ages has been actuated by the initiative and support of individuals who were animated with Christian ideals of freedom and concord.

It is the privilege and responsibility of women as homemakers to instil in their families and homes tolerance and goodwill toward all, regardless of race, creed or color, with discrimination toward none, remembering that we are all God's children sharing equally in His love and tendery mercy, whether our skins are black, yellow, brown or white. (And where, oh where, did we get the illusion that the white race is superior to all others?)

At one of our recent conventions the chosen theme was "Estimating the Power of a Woman." There



Brookbury W.I. and Miss McQuat's Hat Remodelling Course.



Junior W.I. Provincial Rally at Lac Philippe. Attending were Mrs. B. A. Turner, J.W.I. Supervisor and Miss Anna Christie, demonstrator in Home Economics, Macdonald College.

are, no doubt, many women who through modesty or some such factor, do not realize their own power and influence, but it is an undeniable truth that the influence of one woman directed in the right way can be a tremendous force in directing the attitudes and conduct of the members of her household by setting high standards of family relationships, morality, respect for, and understanding of other peoples problems, making the pattern of her home life an inspiration and example to the community. For the home is the unit upon which the nation is founded, and as no com-

munity can rise above the level of its homes, so no nation can rise above the level of its communities. Confucius once said, "Where there is harmony in the home, there is harmony in the nation, there is order in the nation and where there is order in the nation, there is peace in the world."

Then let us consider the power of one individual multiplied by the thousands organized under the Women's Institutes and estimate their influence in moulding public opinion. We cannot remake the world, but we can cultivate under-

(Continued on page 28)

The Month With The W.I.

UNICEF is, and has been, uppermost in most of our minds this month. I am glad to see by the reports that most of the W. I. Branches are thinking of the help to our own Canadian people at Springhill, N.S. This is the time of year when branches are reporting semi-annual meetings, fall fairs and projects for the winter months. Keep up the good work and do keep in mind our own Service Fund and the Foundation Fund (Needed more than ever now that the FWIC office is being set up in Ottawa).

ARGENTEUIL had several branches who ordered UNICEF Christmas cards. ARUNDEL'S guest speaker was Mr. Graham, principal of Arundel High School with his topic on "Better Books in the Library." Each member of FRONTIER answered the roll call by asking a question on "Do's and Dont's for Car Drivers," with answers given by Mr. Gagnon, Chief Police. Miss A. Christie spoke to "JERUSALEM-BETHANY" on "Quilts and Quilting." Prize money was sent to the Lachute High School. A donation made to the proposed 'Home for the Aged.' LACHUTE heard an address on Cancer; had a film on UNICEF and a collection for same. Lakefield presented a Wedding gift to a member; made plans for military whist card parties for the future. MILLE ISLES held a successful social evening. An "Education Night" was held by MORIN HEIGHTS when Mr. Bennett, a teacher, gave a talk on Education in England. UPPER LACHUTE-EAST END had slides and a talk on Spain and Italy. A trip is being planned to visit the Experimental Farm and the Parliament Buildings. A donation was sent to the Home for the Aged.

ABERCORN heard a paper on Publicity; had plant display; sold remnants and had the "Hall" roof painted. AUSTIN heard a paper on "Armistice Day." The Bursary was divided between Beverley Foster and Garry Hopps. The Bursary Fund is now self-supporting with last bond purchase. The UNICEF collection netted \$5.25; paper drive \$18.20. Bills for Hall Repairs were paid. CORRECTION re Garden Party: Proceeds were \$525 not \$315 as stated in October Journal. SOUTH BOLTON observed one minute silence in honor of deceased member; held Old and New sale; donated \$10 toward an artificial limb for a Community member.

COMPTON: BROOKBURY had a Hallowe'en dance; made plans for more dances; for a card party and a Christmas Dinner for the members. CANTERBURY planned a Christmas Party for children; members gave a tried foreign country recipe, with a two minute talk on that country. This branch sent \$13 to the Springhill Disaster Fund and donated cotton to the Cancer Fund. EAST ANGUS AND COOKSHIRE'S bursary was won by Miss Meryle Labonte of East Angus. EAST ANGUS had a paper on "United Nation's Day"; and Mrs. Rowland gave an item on the use of moth crystals. Their projects were a Paper drive netting \$52.95; paid for books, borrowed by the school, from the travelling library; gave prizes for party; and donated school prizes. EAST CLIFTON heard a reading by a member on "Voice of Asia." On Remembrance Day a wreath was placed at the Cenotaph. A Penny Auction was held; heard report of school fair; had a sale of materials and paper drive;

made donation of used clothing to save the Children Fund. This branch held a special meeting to discuss a brucellosis control area, with a petition from the meeting sent to Mac Stearns, M.P. for Federal support. SCOTSTOWN saw film of local scenes; voted \$15 to the Service Fund; heard report of semi-annual meeting; had quilt blocks on display. A moment of silence was held in memory of the late Mrs. Percy Sharman.

GATINEAU:

AYLMER EAST heard a poem on "The Faithful Few." Mrs. Fuller spoke of ways to assist in "Young Canada Book Week;" heard talks on Thanksgiving and Nutrition. Canned goods were donated to Brookdale Farm Home. EARDLEY heard paper on "Mrs. Adelaide Hoodless," and extended invitation to three sister branches to attend "Supper Dish" demonstration. KAZABAZUA donated jams, jellies and pickles for the Brookdale Farm Home and for the Wakefield Hospital. Mr. Pendleton, principal of the High School, spoke on Education.

LOWER EARDLEY received a letter from a sister W.I. in Lancaster, England, containing a 1959 calendar, magazines, stories and best wishes for the New Year. This branch entertained members of Eardley W. I. when an interesting film was shown by Mr. Delaney. A new member was welcomed at the November meeting. Three readings were heard. RUPERT heard the reading of Branch History and report of semi-annual meeting. This branch is requesting that all children in the district receive free polio shots. WAKEFIELD had Miss Derby as guest speaker on "The Board Meeting;" \$613.00 was raised at the Annual Garden Party in aid of the Wakefield Hospital; had a publicity meeting with a debate on Social Security; curtains were bought for the local Boy Scout's camp; layette sent to the U.S.C.; \$3.00 sent to the Grenfell Mission; collected \$45.00 for UNICEF. WRIGHT heard a talk on the care of chinchillas; a letter was read from the M. L. A. stating that he would support the resolution re place names in Quebec. Mrs. Moodie reported on prizes won by members at Aylmer Fair. Rev. W. Lamb of Kazabazua gave an address on "What is Canadian Citizenship" and also gave highlights of a trip to Europe. \$5.00 was donated to the Springhill Disaster Relief Fund; members heard report of Semi-Annual.

HUNTINGDON:

AUBREY-RIVERFIELD had a talk by Dr. M. Kelen on "Diseases of Middle Life." Entertained High School teachers. Cotton sent to Cancer Society. 180 cans of applesauce donated to Ormstown Hospital and Howick Consolidated School. Interesting account by a member of her trip to Mexico. \$60.00 donation to Barrie Memorial Hospital, Ormstown. DEWITT-VILLE had a talk on the Pre-School Child, a film "The Frustrating Fours and Fascinating Fives;" a talk on Banking. A money-making project — each member to have a card party. DUNDEE had a talk by Mrs. Palmer, County President, on highlights of Convention. Discussion on new Macdonald Journal. Demonstration of beautiful shells. \$5.00 gift to Huntingdon branch toward Scholarship Fund. Reminiscences of "My Teaching Days" by a retired teacher. Exhibit of

handicraft. Donations of jams and jellies to Huntingdon Hospital and of used cotton to Cancer Society. FRANKLIN had a talk by the local mayor on municipal affairs. Talk by Mrs. Snowdon, matron of Ormstown Convalescent Hospital. Debate — Do Modern Women Work Harder Than Their Grandmothers? Demonstration on rug making and on Christmas Cor-sages. HEMMINGFORD paid a visit to Franklin Apple Growers Cooperative. Catered for a wedding anniversary supper. Talk by schoolteacher on "Civilization, its Past and Hope for its Future." HOWICK. Tips and time savers in the kitchen. Hints on baking and How to Make a Cheese Cake. Two days session by Miss Anna Christie, Hints on Sewing. Talk — The Problem of Race Prejudices. Geographical Quiz. Donation of apples to School cafeteria. Prizes donated to Home Economics and Manual Training classes. Scholarship of \$25.00 to pupil having highest percentage in Grade 8 and in Grade 9. HUNTINGDON distributed prizes for Junior and Senior Girls for cooking and sewing and to boys for wood working. Jams and Jellies donated to Huntingdon Hospital. Report of semi-annual meeting. Plans for 35th anniversary. ORMSTOWN had a talk on banking by a banker. Entertained teachers of High School and Roman Catholic school. Informative talk by Editor Gordon Green regarding Macdonald Journal — also spoke about Armistice Day and what women can do to promote world peace. Jams and jellies sent to Ormstown Hospital.

JACQUES CARTIER:

STE. ANNES donated \$25.00 to Educational Convention; saw a film on "Citizenship." Their project is to have a bazaar and tea in December with proceeds to be donated to Springhill Disaster Fund. A farewell gift of a travel clock was sent to Mrs. H. G. Taylor in Ottawa.

MISSISQUOI:

COWANSVILLE had a talk on "Education;" heard a talk by Mrs. K. Winser on her trip to Spain. A motion was made to suggest to town council that, should new town hall materialize, a library room be included. It was also decided to ask council to paint more white lines at vital crossings in town. DUNHAM served refreshments at County Hobby Show. FORDYCE is working on quilt block patterns for Tweedsmuir Contest; attended Homemaker Club meeting in Richford. STANBRIDGE EAST saw a demonstration on card weaving; sponsored School Fair; presented prizes to pupils in local school; donated \$27.00 to Service Fund; realized \$38.00 from "Shell Out for UNICEF" campaign. Orders were taken for UNICEF cards.

PAPINEAU:

LOCHABER observed two minute silence in "Remembrance." Poppies were sold. A discussion was held on the Springhill disaster with \$20.00 to be sent to that fund. A member was presented with an engraved silver cup for her baby daughter. Christmas sale held at meeting netting \$19.00.

PONTIAC:

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CLARENDON had as guest speaker Mr. Tom Barley, new administrator of County Hospital; donated fruits, vegetables, and jams to County Hospital; held discussion re display at local fairs, brought parcels for grab-table for Anti-T.B. Funds; will assist in care of War Memorial Park. ELMSIDE had a discussion on first twelve pages of "Do's and Don't's," held cookie

contest and sale; made donation of \$5.00 to county Hospital; ordered two boxes of UNICEF cards; donated \$2.00 to Campbell's Bay Legion for Remembrance Day. FORT COULONGE's project is to raise talent money before Christmas. QUYON heard report of County Semi-Annual Convention; heard a talk on World's Fair at Brussels by guest speaker. WYMAN took part in "Shell-Out for UNICEF" and held a spelling match.

QUEBEC:

VALCARTIER heard report on school fair; realized the sum of \$90.00 from a card party; donated \$42.00 to Service Fund; heard items from Federated Women's Paper; heard a talk on Home Economics by Convenor of Economics.

RICHMOND:

CLEVELAND held a contest on Prime-ministers and Governor-generals of Canada. A quilt was tacked and "used for charity." DENNISON MILLS had a lemon and apple pie contest. Mrs. A. Fulkner gave a broadcast on UNICEF recently. GORE sent jams and jellies to the Wales Home and boxes of clothing to the Cecil Memorial Home; heard a talk by a new Canadian on her native land, Switzerland. MELBOURNE RIDGE sent jams and jellies to the Wales Home; catered to the Legion banquet. A life membership was given to Mrs. W. Adamson. RICHMOND HILL held a hat course where 21 hats were remodelled; held a successful chicken pie supper and dance. RICHMOND YOUNG WOMEN made a donation to UNICEF; held a Hallowe'en masquerade where the sum of \$2.20 was realized from a drawing and \$1.45 from sale of homemade candy. SHIPTON celebrated their 25th Anniversary at their annual supper where their oldest charter member, Mrs. Vermeeren gave a review of past activities. Other charter members and county executive were present. They realized the sum of \$96.00 from their "Shell-Out for UNICEF." A wreath was bought for the Danville cenotaph for Armistice. The County president attended the meeting. SPOONER POND heard reading by convenor of agriculture on Indian views of white man's farming and heard reading by convenor of citizenship on Tweedsmuir competitions, and their value to community and country; held an apron auction; packed a box of used clothing for Unitarian Relief. WINDSOR MILLS bought an Armistice Wreath; sent \$10.00 to Cecil Memorial Home for Christmas; heard a talk by Miss K. Dubuc on her trip to New York and the United Nations.

GRANBY HILL made plans for their fancy work and food sale in November and a Member's Night Supper in the near future. WATERLOO-WARDEN had a sale of jams and jellies; renewed their subscription to United Nations Exchange programme with New Zealand.

SHERBROOKE:

ASCOT had a food sale; made donation to needy children; discussed quilt patterns and fabrics; held a card party and spelling bee; members attended the Short Course in Weaving, Leather, and Jewellery at Lennoxville; received a donation from the husband of the late Mrs. C. G. Mills in her memory. BELVIDERE held an Apron Parade and contest followed by auction of the aprons; donated \$10.00 to Cecil Memorial Home, \$2.00 to UNICEF, \$20.00 to Q. W. I. Service Fund;

Macdonald College Recipes

Just about everybody likes ham, winter and summer. And just about anybody can prepare ham. It's so easily cooked, either boiled or baked, and it doesn't require much imagination.

However, if you want to produce a ham that is different, delicious and distinctive, try it with a tangy horseradish dressing.

The attractive features about this particular sauce is that it can be served with ham either hot or cold, and that it is easily made with sweetened condensed

milk.

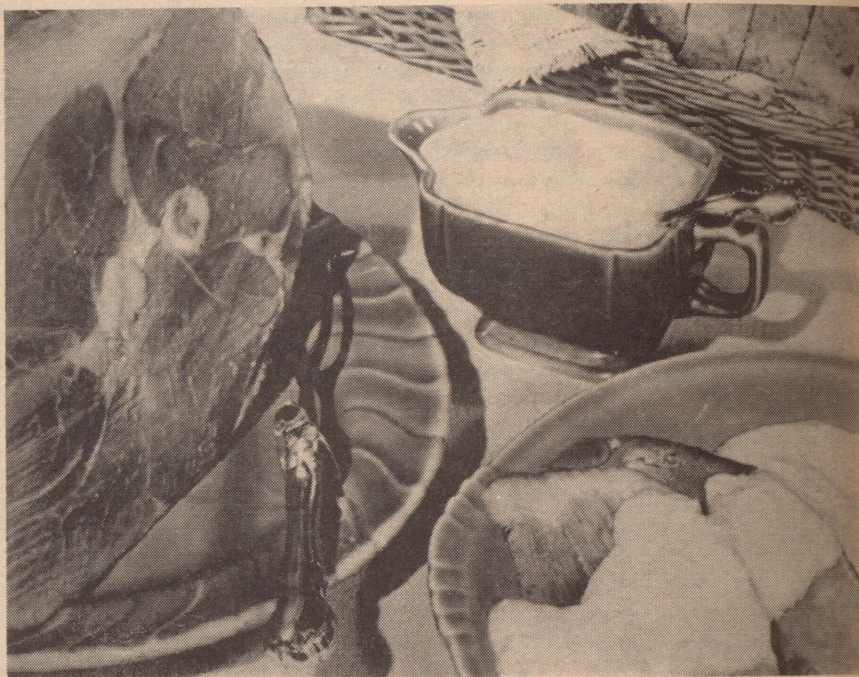
If you have special meals to think about, and no doubt you do, with Christmas just around the corner, you will want to serve something other than the traditional turkey.

Ham, served with candied sweet potatoes, green peas or beans, and perhaps a salad of greens, will give you a colorful, tasty and nourishing meal. Hot buttered rolls or tea biscuits will complete the repast. Here's the recipe for:

HORSERADISH DRESSING

- 1 cup light sour cream
- 2/3 cup sweetened condensed milk
(1/2 of 15-oz. can)
- 1 tablespoon horseradish
- 2 teaspoons salt
- 1 teaspoon prepared mustard
- 1/4 teaspoon paprika
- 1/4 cup white vinegar
- 2 tablespoons water

Combine sour cream and sweetened condensed milk in top of double boiler. Add horseradish, salt, mustard and paprika; beat with rotary egg beater until smooth. Stir in vinegar. Blend well. Place over hot water until warm. Add water. Let stand over warm water until ready to serve. This sauce is good on boiled beef as well as ham.



CHRISTMAS TREATS

It has been said that the best gift of all is the gift of an idea, so here are some ideas for preparing Christmas treats that your family will enjoy. This Christmas gift does not bear the tag, "Do Not Open 'till December 25th", because you can have the fun of using these recipes now.

All of us like the traditional Christmas pudding but often, we do not have the time to prepare it. Here is an idea for a pudding that makes a tasty dessert after a big Christmas dinner.

Christmas Cream-of-Wheat Pudding

- 1/2 cup cream-of-wheat, dry
- 1/2 cup dry bread crumbs
- 1/2 cup chopped nuts
- 3/4 cup granulated sugar
- 3 eggs
- 1/4 t. salt
- 1 tsp. baking powder
- 1/2 pt. whipping cream

Mix dry ingredients; stir in beaten egg yolks. Beat whites until stiff but not dry. Fold egg whites into dry mixture. Place in greased pan and bake in oven

for 40 min. at 350°F. Cool and then crumble this mixture. Pour into a round mold and chill until firm. A mixing bowl makes a fine mold.

To serve: Turn out on a glass or silver plate. Cover pudding completely with halves of red or green grapes. Decorate with sprigs of holly stuck into the pudding and with a red candle.

The second package contains an idea that may be used for a holiday bazaar or it makes an attractive gift for a neighbor. Be sure to send the recipe with it.

Butter Crunch

- 1 cup butter or margarine
- 1 cup sugar
- 2 Tbsp. water
- 1 Tbsp. light corn syrup
- 3/4 cup chopped nuts
- 3 oz. semi-sweet chocolate

Melt the margarine in a 2 qt. saucepan over low heat. Remove from heat; add the sugar. With a wooden spoon, stir the mixture until it is well-blended. Return to low heat, stir rapidly until it begins to bubble. Add water, corn syrup, and mix well. Put in candy thermometer (if you have one). Cook until thermometer registers 290°F. (approx. 15-20 min.). The cold water test may also be used. Pour 1/2 tsp. of hot candy into a cup of very cold water. Mixture that hardens should sound brittle when struck against the side of the cup.

Remove from heat at once. Nuts should be sprinkled on a lightly greased cookie sheet in the shape of a wreath. Pour out candy over

the nuts. Nuts may be added to candy and then, the whole mixture poured out. As it cools loosen from sheet 2 or 3 times. Melt chocolate over boiling water. Spread evenly over crunch.

Decorate with a red ribbon and put saran wrap over all.

Christmas is not complete without cranberries. To use them for a sauce or salad is always a treat for the holiday spread. For a change serve cranberry muffins with your dinner or for tea during the yuletide season. You are certain to have your guests ask for "seconds" if there are muffins on the table.

Cranberry Muffins

- 1 cup fresh cranberries
- ½ cup sugar
- 2 cup flour
- 4 tsp. baking powder
- ¾ tsp. salt
- 1 egg
- 1 cup milk
- 3 Tbsp. melted margarine

Chop cranberries and sprinkle with half the sugar. Sift flour, baking powder, salt and remaining sugar together. Beat egg slightly, combine with milk and melted butter and add to dry ingredients. Stir only until blended. Then fold in cranberries. Transfer to greased muffin pans and bake in oven at 425°F. for 25 min. Makes 12 medium-sized muffins.

Santa could not come without lollipops for the small fry.

Toastaroon Lollipops

- 6 cup cornflakes
- 1 can (14 oz.) sweetened condensed milk
- ½ tsp. almond extract
- 2 doz. peppermint candy sticks, 3" to 4" long.

Combine cornflakes, condensed milk, and flavoring, mixing lightly. Drop from tablespoon on greas-

ed baking sheet; flatten slightly, shaping edges with spoon. Bake in oven at 325°F., 12-15 min. or until done. Cool for a few min.; remove cookies with knife or spatula. While they are still warm, insert a peppermint candy stick in each one for the lollipop stick. Makes 24 cookies.

• • •

COOK OF THE YEAR

Toronto — Canada's "cook of the year" will be named here next January by a panel of leading Canadian food authorities, it has been announced. The experts will select the top cook from among the ten winners of the cross-Canada Bakefest, the country's largest cooking contest, worth \$25,000 in cash and appliances.

The winners will be flown to Toronto to vie for a title in a grand bakeoff which will take place next January 13th.

The ten contestants for the title will be judged by their cooking techniques, originality of their recipes and by the finished products which they themselves must prepare and decorate.

The bakeoff judges are Mrs. Katherine C. Bayley, well-known Toronto food columnist, director of a firm of food consultants and the former food editor of the Canadian Home Journal; Miss Germaine Gloutnez, director of l'Ecole des ménagères, Montreal, and president of the Quebec Home Economics Association and food columnist of the French press, and Miss Norah Cherry, food editor of the Winnipeg Free Press, charter member of the Canadian Home Economics Association, and a member of the Manitoba Home Economics Association and the Dietetic Association of Manitoba.

CHILD'S EYE VIEW OF SUMMER

"I used to hide between long bean rows in our great garden to avoid being caught by father for extra Latin lessons. My recollections of Cambridge in the first years of this century are all of summer and all of sun; there must have been winter and rain, but what I recall are light and shade glancing between the leaves, long green beans, scarlet flowers, and a small boy lying flat on the ground between two tall lines of canes, carefully not hearing his father's call."

Raymond Postgate speaking about his father, an eminent classical scholar.

UNWANTED ADVICE

"Anyone with a first baby had better realise that friends, relations and casual passers-by will assume straight away that she has neither common sense nor maternal instinct, and that it's their duty to offer advice and hers to take it."

Jacobine Hichens speaking in the BBC programme "Woman's Hour."

When winter comes, don't stay indoors like the chipmunk. Fresh air and exercise is necessary in all seasons. Older people should wrap up, put on warm shoes with those devices that grip the ice and take at least a short walk each day. A walking stick will often give added confidence in slippery weather.

If Junior regards bedtime as an unnecessary evil and is disinclined to sleep, slow down his activities for an hour before bedtime. A last-minute romp or too adventurous bedtime stories may cause excitement and wakefulness.

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So far so good. But why does the man up front wear a dress?

Young Lady In Church

There are several reasons why people go to church. For some, it is good business. For others, it is a tradition. But for the earnest young parent in this series of pictures, religion is quite evidently an important part of his way of life, and the fact that he has a couple of youngsters at the squirming age and no baby sitter, does not deter him for an instant.

Clad in their Sunday-go-to-meeting best, the two young ladies are towed down the aisle and eased back into the pew with the sternest of whispered warnings of what not to do.

Mother has come along too, but her duty for the morning was finished when she got the girls into their pink and yellow dresses and somehow managed to keep them clean until the moment they were loaded into the family car for the journey. There was a last minute check before they smiled their way through the church door, a last deft stroke of the comb through tresses that somehow seem to get tangled without any good reason, and a dab with a mouth-moistened handkerchief at an ear that somehow was



What are they standing up for? I can see from here!

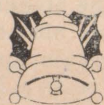


Would anyone see me if I sneaked out? Maybe I better wait for the prayer.

overlooked back home. Now they are in church, and the only problem remaining is that of discipline.

But since this is plainly an old fashioned family, discipline is a matter for father, and here he is determined to be calm in spite of it all.

Religion, so the gentlemen of the cloth tell us, is an instinct in the human race. If that is so, reverend sirs, could you tell us why the baby always cries just as we commence to say grace? Or why the young lady of our picture story should act so utterly undevout?



That reminds me, I haven't said a prayer myself yet.



I don't understand what he's talking about.



All good things come from Heaven? When?

MONTH WITH THE W.I.

(Continued from page 23)

held a salad tea and food sale; members attended Short Course and worked at Cancer Dressing Station. BROMPTON ROAD also had a parade of aprons with an auction of same; catered to banquet for Sherbrooke Rotary Club; donated \$5.00 to Bible Society; ordered UNICEF Christmas cards; catered to Sherbrooke County Annual Ploughing Match Luncheon. LENNOXVILLE heard a talk on Psychiatry by Dr. Roger Moffatt, donated \$5.00 to School Fair Prize List; worked at Cancer Dressing Station; arranged for Government sponsored classes in French Conversation at Lennoxville High School. These are open to adults. They held a successful rummage sale, donated used clothing to Salvation Army; observed Fire Prevention Week. Mrs. R. Maurice won 1st Prize in County Quilt block contest. MILBY presented a gift to their president, Mrs. Allison, who was moving to Ontario; entertained County W. I. quarterly meeting; assisted at Short Course and at Cancer Dressing Station.

STANSTEAD:

BEEBE donated \$25.00 to school lunch project and \$25.00 to School prizes. HATLEY heard an account of one member's trip to the Eastern State Fair, visiting a rug and quilt display — one quilt valued at \$4000.00. Several members of this branch attended a hat and slipper demonstration and \$2.00 was donated to local library. HATLEY CENTRE voted \$2.00 towards the UNICEF party for local school children, \$15.00 to Scholarship fund and \$6.00 for school prizes; realized \$22.25 from a card party. MINTON enjoyed a dinner at the home of one member, afterwards going to Sherbrooke to visit La Tribune building as guests of Mr. Gordon Beerworth; ordered UNICEF cards and voted

\$2.00 towards UNICEF party for local school children. NORTH HATLEY heard report on school fair; voted \$25.00 to scholarship committee; heard an account of a member's trip to South Africa; entertained the teaching staff. STANSTEAD NORTH heard a talk by the School Nurse for Stanstead County on her work among 1,765 students; realized \$29.30 from a food sale; their UNICEF collection was \$76.26. WAY'S MILLS held a workshop when weaving, slipper making and hat remodelling was taught; served dinner to the Stanstead County Ploughman's Association.

Institute members will be interested to hear of the visit made by Miss Anna Christie to a group of Indian Women in Chapais, Quebec. Chapais is a mining town situated approximately 350 miles north of Montreal. Here, a number of Indian men are employed and live with their families in the town. It is a unique situation because it is one of the few places — if not the only place — in Canada that is making a reality of Indian integration.

It was through the Indian Affairs Branch that the Q.W.I. heard of this situation, and the need for an adult education program for these people. At the suggestion that the Women's Institutes might meet the needs of the Indian women, Miss Christie went to Chapais. For a week, she held classes in cookery, home management, good health, and nutrition. She found these women in need of basic instruction and assistance to help make the tremendous adjustment facing them.

It was hoped that a branch of the Q.W.I. could be formed in Chapais. If so, it would be the first branch to include Indian women in its membership. It would not be realistic to say a branch would meet their immediate needs. However the Q.W.I. hopes to be of further assistance in what must be considered as a long term project of Adult Education.

THE WOMAN'S PART

(Continued from page 21)

standing and respect for the differences among peoples of other countries, for international goodwill depends upon each one of us as individuals. Wherever we go, our opinions, attitudes, our ideas and our ideals move with us and affect other people.

And now, as the last days of the old year are closing in, and January opens the door to another New Year, we look both ways: backwards to the achievements and failures of the past and forward to the possibilities and promise of the future. Then with continued awareness of the great privileges we enjoy as citizens of Canada, and an earnest resolve to exert to the utmost that power that lies within each one of us — all nations may one day live in a free world, liberated from all terror and persecution and fear and war.

As a fitting compliment I add these lines:

"Woman, woman, what can it be
This wonderful power you possess?

Ever since the world began
You have been ruling the fate
of man.

Yours is the power that governs
His pleasures and pains.

Whether a man goes right or
wrong,

'Tis a woman that holds the
reins!

The premature loss of a first tooth will leave a gap in a child's mouth into which teeth on either side may grow, causing crooked second teeth or a distorted jaw.

Parents may set children a bad example by taking just a cup of coffee, with or without toast for breakfast. This important meal should provide one third of the day's nutrition, to compensate for the preceeding long fast.

AN ORCHID FOR DR. MARY

ONE of the most satisfactory things I know is to see someone who deserves honour, getting it in their lifetime. The trouble is that most really worthwhile projects are longterm affairs and the pioneers work themselves to the bone for years before anyone pays attention. Also, of course, they are not the sort of people who are aiming at attracting the limelight. If they were, they'd pick an easier job that brought quicker results. Too often, the really worthwhile people never hit the headlines till they are dead, which seems to me rather dreary.

For all these reasons I, with a lot of other people, raise three cheers this week because we have just heard from Mrs. de Mel, ACW Vice-President for Asia, that Dr. Mary Rutnam has been given the Ramon Magsaysay Award for Public Service.

This Award is the Nobel prize of Asia, inspired by the ideals held by President Ramon Magsaysay of the Philippines, who died in a plane crash in 1957. It is given to outstanding personalities in Asia for "exemplifying the highest type of democratic leadership." Of the six recipients, Dr. Mary Rutnam is the only woman. This wise, charming little lady, who is 85 this year, went to Manila to receive the award.

Dr. Mary Rutnam was born in Canada and went to Ceylon in 1896 to join the American Medical Mission in Jaffna. She married a Tamil Ceylonese and Ceylon became the country of her adoption and her love. She raised a family of five children; she became a doctor and practiced in Colombo; she was Ceylon's first woman Municipal Councillor.

Above all, her heart went out to the women in the villages and it was her desire to help them that made her the pioneer of the Women's Institute movement in Ceylon. She was the founder of the Lanka Mahila Samiti which is now an island-wide organization with a membership of 75,000.

One of the basic rules for success in any undertaking of this sort is that you cannot do things *for* people; you must work *with* them. Dr. Rutnam inspired the women of Ceylon. She awakened them to their civic responsibilities and encouraged them to take part in the public life of their country. She set the pattern for the Manila Samiti, which teaches its members to help themselves.

Hers has been a great achievement. She is loved and honoured in Ceylon and in her native Canada and by all of us in ACWW who know her work. Those of us who met her, in Toronto or Colombo, will always remember her wisdom, her charm and her indestructible sense of humour and we rejoice that she has received this honour, the Magsaysay award.

HOPE FOR THE WORLD'S LEPERS

"If I had contracted anything else—let's say tuberculosis—or something like that, I would have said that at least it was within the bounds of what I thought possible, but I never thought of this disease at all. And when I did realise, together with the shock came a feeling of acute guilt." Peter Greave, an Englishman who contracted leprosy in India, sum-



Good humour is evident at this class sponsored by the Melbourne Ridge W.I.



The sewing class at the Gore W.I. with the instructress, Miss Christie in the centre.

med up the attitude to this ancient and dread disease in these words. "However bad the physical suffering is," he said, "The mental suffering is frequently far more severe. A lot of that suffering, I believe, is due to a fear that need not exist at all."

Leprosy is now virtually unknown in Western Europe, but some authorities put the total of sufferers throughout the world as high as ten million. Only one in ten of these receives the modern sulphone treatment. Peter Greave had given up hope under the old treatment and had lived for seven years feeling like a criminal before he was cured by it. In the programme he described how the new treatment had changed the entire outlook of leprosy sufferers. "Where before they used to

come in completely afraid they now come in with the certainty that in two or three years they can, and will, be cured. As a consequence some of their shame is done away with."

The Reverend Hedley Ennals, of the Mission to Lepers, spoke about the hope that the sulphone drugs have brought since the war to the leprosy colony of Yalisombo, on the Congo River. He related how "Dickie", one of the team of trained African workers there, who had had to leave medical school when he contracted leprosy, had offered himself as an experimental guinea pig when the new drugs had first arrived. Dickie felt that only he among the patients was qualified to describe in scientific terms just how he felt after taking the drugs. His

courage had been of great service to the other patients, although he had a paralyzed leg as a result of the experiments.

Dr. Fraser, Medical Superintendent on the island of Hay Ling Chau (The Isle of Happy Healing) off Hong Kong, described how this leprosy settlement, which now houses 540 patients, had been able to go ahead rapidly owing to strong financial support from the Hong Kong Government and community and other friends, and the free services given by the architect, and by men of the Forces, who came from Hong Kong at their free weekends to help with digging ditches, clearing drains and surveying. The settlement was not only a centre for treatment and research, Dr. Fraser said, but patients were encouraged to contribute to the solution of the problem of leprosy by doing such work as they could for the community, whether in the vegetable gardens; looking after

the pigs, ducks and rabbits; helping in the hospital wards, or working in a wide variety of occupations.

Dr. Ernest Muir, Medical Adviser to the British Leprosy Association, pointed out that, although one infectious patient could spread the disease to many, leprosy was in fact a much less infectious disease than tuberculosis. It has been suggested that the disappearance of leprosy from Western Europe may have been due to the spread of tuberculosis, the latter disease acting, by raising the resistance to leprosy, as cowpox vaccination does in preventing smallpox, and Dr. Ross Innes, Secretary of the British Leprosy Relief Association, said that there were indications that a vaccine called BCG, borrowed from tuberculosis, might prevent a person who had been in contact with leprosy from developing it, or at any rate from getting it in

a bad form, but this had not yet been proved. He and many other doctors believed that the total eradication of leprosy could be achieved. "The present drug we have—D.D.S. or Dapsone—is the standard treatment throughout the world today," he said, "and it has enabled us to extend leprosy treatment to hundreds of thousands of patients who would not otherwise have been treated, because it happens to be a drug which can be given in out-patient conditions . . . I have recently been in West Africa and have seen for myself that such out-patients get good results. Therefore the whole future lies really in drugs wisely used—never forgetting, of course, the general and public health measure which are needed for the eradication of any disease." The search for new drugs continued, he said, and in East and West Africa the new drug D.P.T. had been shown to be as efficient as D.D.S. and, in addition, non-toxic.

WINTER CARE OF HOUSE PLANTS

There are a number of factors to keep in mind in caring for house plants as winter approaches, advises the Department of Horticulture, Ontario Agricultural College.

As the daylight period becomes shorter, those plants requiring as much sunlight as possible should be moved to the brightest locations in the house. Most plants thrive at a day temperature of 65°F. and a night temperature of 53°F. to 60°F. Since house temperatures are often too high, it is best to grow the plants in the cooler parts of the room, usually near a window. Drafts should be avoided. Blinds or drapes, when drawn, should come between the plants and the window, and thus prevent the plants from being in a cold air space.

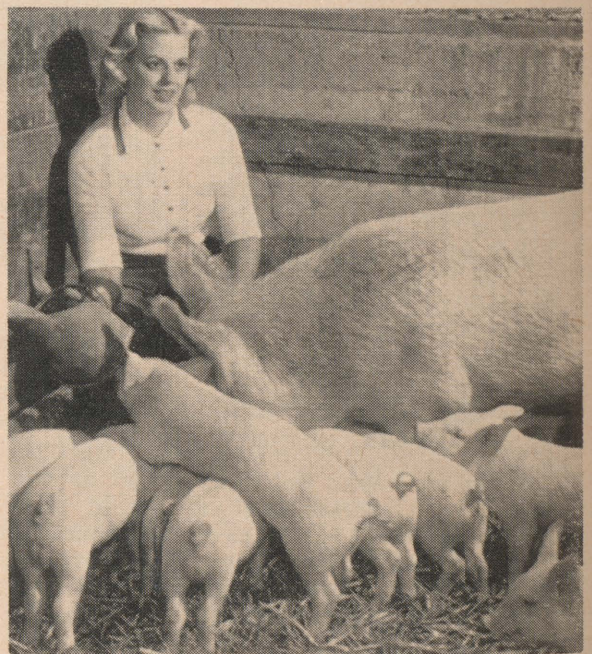
During very cold weather, it may be wise to place a piece of corrugated cardboard between the plants and the window. Plants may be injured beyond recovery by cold, but slightly injured plants, if placed in a cool cellar and sprinkled with cool water, can often be thawed out with little or no damage, cut back to a good bud, and grown afresh.

Detailed information on the growing of plants in the home is contained in Ontario Department of Agriculture Bulletin 507, "House Plants and Gift Plants", which may be obtained by residents of Ontario from the Information Branch, Ontario Department of Agriculture, Parliament Buildings, Toronto, or from the office of the county Agricultural Representative.

PULLING TOGETHER

Last year in Devon I saw four magnificent horses pulling a wagon loaded with a large oak. Three were Suffolk Punches and the fourth, bigger and stronger, a black Shire which must have been every bit of eighteen hands. They seemed unable to pull their load up the slightly softer ground leading from a field to the

lane, and I half expected a caterpillar tractor to be fetched to the rescue. But the wagoner removed the black, tied it to the hedge and returned to the others. Then holding the gear horse, he urged them on, and to my surprise the three of them pulled the load into the lane with apparent ease. The wagoner explained that the black Shire, though superior in physique and pulling power, was a newcomer to the team, whereas the other three had worked together a good deal. 'It's not a matter of pulling,' he told me, 'but of pulling together'.—*Barrie J. Kaye.*



Mrs. Cecelia Neville of Lafayette, Indiana, shown with a litter of purebred Yorkshire pigs was the first woman swine judge in the history of the International Exposition at Chicago.

A MERRY CHRISTMAS

TO ALL COUNTRY HOUSEHOLD READERS



Does he really care if the whiskers are real?

The delight of Christmas morning is yearly repeated wherever there is a child. Later may come the narrowing of tastes into sophistication, but the child knows no barrier, unless those of age and understanding. Parents may quail at the thought of the early light when they (themselves barely abed) must rouse to share the discoveries of the morning. "And this, and this, and this!" piles up among their blankets. The rattle of a drum assails their ears, and mechanical toys whirr heavily along their pillows. Yet, let the insistence of your child once stir you out of sleep, and you are caught up in a joyous radiance.

There must have been a time when civilization was wrapped in puritan swaddlings and Christmas as a celebration of Christ's birthday was frowned upon, but could there ever have been a time when children did not have their day? Whether on the twenty-fifth of December or at some other season, the child of the past must have had his gift-day.

Until recently in Scotland, the stocking, filled by the sleigh-borne Santa Claus (strictly non-commercial variety) contained all the presents. Tree-conscious as the Scots are becoming to-day, Santa now has to share his presents equally between the Christmas fir and the bed-post stocking. Still, children cling to the stocking as the proper place for gifts, and their instinct is right. It may be a delicious torment to know that the parcels on the tree are for you and that you will be part of the ceremony of "giving" later on, but nothing equals the half-sleeping grope in the dark to

grasp the mysteries that have arrived in the night.

There was a family saying in my childhood threatening the children with only a salt herring in their stockings. With a child's belief in the possibility of the improbable, I expected each Christmas to be the one to whom a capricious Santa would leave this fishy token.

I never did find my salt herring; instead there were bulges of apples and oranges, sweets and little dolls, whistles and tin trumpets, and always the bright penny in the toe. There probably was a box beside the stocking containing the big present, but the joys of the stocking itself were the most urgent.

Older folks do not understand such unreasonable attractions, but that is the fault of the adult and not of the child. Neither do older folks understand the fact that it doesn't really matter whether the child believes that Santa Claus is the Father Christmas of the story books or just his own plain father dressed up to play the part. There are far too many important things in that wonderful world of the child's imagination for him to be troubled by the discrepancies which some parents try so hard to gild with lies.

We have all had our childhood moments when happiness was a reality, emanating from the safety of being loved, and for each of those that were given us, we strive to give equally to our own and other children. There is no better time than this; no season when it is simpler to build the protective circle of love round the small ones.



AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION WORKER with Checkerboard tie



Twenty short years ago, production of broilers and turkeys in Eastern Canada was small, seasonal, and sideline. Today broiler and turkey production is large-scale, year-round, highly efficient specialized **business**.

Ask the Poultry Department people what prompted and who prompted this striking development. They'll list many contributing factors — but the biggest single factor was the Purina salesman! He took busloads of poultrymen to see the great Pennsylvania and Delmarva broiler areas, set up demonstration flocks in rented barns, promoted cut-up chicken outlets.

You can see something of the same sort coming in hog production. From small sideline it's developing into large-scale specialty. Ask the Animal Husbandry people who is doing most to bring volume-efficiency into this field!

One Purina salesman (an O.A.C. graduate) has nearly 30 "Purina Pig Parlors" operating in a single Ontario county.

Behind the Purina man, at his call, are the accumulated know-how of over 65 years of feed manufacture and study by a notably alert organization; the accumulated observations of many years on feeder farms of every type; the full resources of the Purina Research Laboratories and Research Farms.

All this he carries with him along the back roads. Granted, he's a salesman. Granted, he's out to sell Purina Chows and Sanitation Products. But to sell them successfully, he has to get them used successfully; and so, usually unrecognized and always unofficially, the Purina salesman is one of the most effective agricultural extension workers.

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